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5 Major U.K. Dailies Respond to Walkout By Firing Printers

LONDON — More than half of Britain's national daily newspapers fired their printers Sunday, protesting Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher with the possibility of a major industrial crisis.

The sudden dismissals seemed likely to lead to an indefinite shutdown of the country's national press. Hundreds of National Graphical Association members were fired as they reported for work after a two-day stoppage in protest against new laws curbing union power.

Five of the nine national newspapers — The Sun, The Times, the Daily Mirror, the Daily Express and the Daily Star — told the printers they had violated their contracts.

Printers at the other four newspapers — the Financial Times, The Daily Telegraph, the Daily Mail and The Guardian — were expected to walk out later in protest, industrial sources said.

The dispute started several months ago over six printing jobs at a plant in Warrington, northern England, that prints free newspapers.

It escalated last week into a national issue after the union had refused to pay a total of £150,000 (\$225,000) in fines imposed for illegal picketing at the plant.

The Conservative government's tougher union laws, among other things, secondary picketing, to which workers picket companies where they are not employed or companies that are not directly involved in an industrial dispute.

The printers stopped publication of all national newspapers Saturday and Sunday after a judge invoked the new laws to impose the

union's assets, estimated at £10 million. An appeal court judge upheld the seizure order and ordered that £175,000 of the union's money be put aside to pay fines and court costs.

There were signs Sunday that the country's labor leaders were trying to avoid being drawn by the union into a showdown with Mrs. Thatcher over the laws, much as they dislike them.

But pressure is growing on the Trades Union Congress, which groups Britain's major labor groups, to do something to save the National Graphical Association, the sources said.

One member of the Trades Union Congress General Council, Terence Duffy, who heads the engineering union, warned the printers' union: "We will not support you unless you get within the law."

But William Keys, chairman of the employment committee of the Trades Union Congress and general secretary of the other main printing union, SOGAT '82, said: "Law that carries the seed of injustice and intolerance should be opposed."

If the National Graphical Association continues its illegal picketing in Warrington, it could be bankrupted under the laws, which allow repeated fines for contempt of court.

National newspaper owners are also suing the union for damages that could add up to \$4 million, under another provision of the new laws.

The Trades Union Congress will hold meetings on the crisis Monday that could decide what stand it will take.



Rescue workers search for victims at the scene of the plane crash Sunday in a field outside Madrid.

183 Killed in Crash of Colombian Jet Near Madrid

The Associated Press

MADRID — A Boeing 747 jetliner of Colombia's Avianca Airlines crashed and exploded into flames Sunday, minutes before it was to have landed at Madrid's Barajas Airport, killing 183 people. It was one of the worst airline accidents in Spain's history.

Airport officials said 11 people survived. Four of them suffered serious injuries.

Avianca officials said the jet, which was on its way from Paris to Bogota, with scheduled stops in Madrid and Caracas, was carrying 170 passengers, a crew of 20 and four off-duty airline employees. Airline officials said the flight would have originated in Frankfurt, but the plane needed for that route was being overhauled in Amsterdam.

Many of the victims were French and West German citizens who had boarded the plane in Paris.

Among the dead were Manuel Scurza, a Peruvian writer; Angel Hana, a Uruguayan writer; and his wife, Maria Traba, an Argentine writer and arts critic.

Soon after the plane crashed, many of the residents of Mejerada del Campo, which has a population of about 12,000, arrived at the scene. Maria Carmen Jimenez, a councilwoman in the village, said their rescue efforts were delayed until firemen extinguished the blaze. The plane broke in two upon impact.

Rescue parties worked through the day to move the victims' bodies from the wreckage to an airport hangar for identification.

The cause of the crash could not immediately be determined. Transportation Minister Enrique Baron said. There were reports that one of the plane's four engines was on fire as the aircraft approached the airport, but Mr. Baron said that Boeing 747s can land with only two working engines.

Searchers found the flight data recorder, which normally contains information about an aircraft's flight course and a recording of conversations in the cockpit. Officials said the recorder would be examined.

Rescue parties found two pistols in the wreckage, airport officials said. They added that the pistols might have belonged to some crew members or passengers who may have handed them in when boarding the plane.

Officials said air traffic controllers had spoken with the captain of the plane, Tulio Hernandez, and the co-pilot, Edgar Ramirez, 25

minutes before it was to have landed. At that time, the plane was flying at an altitude of about 3,300 feet (1,000 meters), and the weather was clear.

A spokesman at the Barajas control tower said air traffic controllers had lost radio contact with the plane about 15 minutes later, and four minutes before the crash. At 1:04 A.M., the plane crashed near Mejerada del Campo, 5 miles (8

kilometers) east of the airport and 12 miles east of central Madrid.

Afterward, said Carmen Novo of Venezuela, a survivor who was hospitalized but reported in good condition, "it was like I was in another world, because I continued walking and walking; I didn't know what to do. All was so fast that it was impossible to explain." She was hospitalized in Madrid.

She said the plane was full of

smoke when "I saw a man who began to break a window of the plane with his feet and I helped him, and when the window was broken we both left the plane and began to run."

King Juan Carlos I and Queen Sofia sent condolences to Presidents Belisario Betancur of Colombia and Francois Mitterrand of France. Queen Sofia visited the survivors hospitalized in Madrid.

Panel Representing Lebanese City To Visit Syria to Discuss PLO Pullout

By Joseph B. Treaster
New York Times Service

TRIPOLI, Lebanon — The Higher Coordinating Committee of Tripoli is planning to go to Damascus on Monday morning to work out the details of an agreement for the departure of rival Palestinian factions from the area, a member of the committee said Sunday.

The committee member, Wassef Fattal, one of the city's leading businessmen, said the committee had been summoned to Damascus by Rashid Karami.

Mr. Karami is a former Lebanese prime minister who began trying to find a peaceful solution to the Palestinian conflict shortly after the factions began fighting near Tripoli more than three weeks ago. On Friday, the foreign ministers of Syria and Saudi Arabia announced that the followers of Yasser Arafat, the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, and rebels who have been trying to force a reorganization of the PLO had agreed to end their fighting and withdraw from northern Lebanon within two weeks.

The foreign ministers said the details of the disengagement and withdrawal would be worked out by Mr. Karami and the Higher Coordinating Committee.

Aides to Mr. Arafat said Sunday they understood that the two-week period was to begin on the day that Mr. Karami announced the specifics of the disengagement and withdrawal.

The committee, which represents a cross section of interests in Tripoli, lacks any armed unit, but Syria and Saudi Arabia said they were prepared to give the committee assistance in supervising the withdrawal.

In Tripoli on Sunday, the ceasefire that was a part of the agree-

ment announced by the foreign ministers appeared to be generally holding.

However, sniper fire continued in the northern neighborhoods of the city adjacent to the Badawi refugee camp, which has been one of the major points of battle.

In Damascus, the Syrian military command said it had "confronted" U.S. F-14 fighter jets for the second day in a row as the aircraft flew reconnaissance missions over the mountains northeast of Beirut.

The Syrians did not make clear what they meant by "confronted," but a Pentagon spokesman in Washington said that U.S. aircraft conducting reconnaissance of Syrian positions in Lebanon had reported no anti-aircraft fire or interceptor planes in the last two days. In another development in Damascus, the Syrian news agency said that President Hafez al-Assad met with members of the ruling Ba'ath Arab Socialist Party on Sunday.

It was the first meeting the president is reported to have had with any government officials other than Foreign Minister Abdel-Halim Khaddam since Syria announced that Mr. Assad had undergone an appendectomy last week.

The news agency report seemed intended to quell rumors in the Arab world that Mr. Assad, 53, was seriously ill.

Syrians in Damascus and other cities danced in the street Sunday night after Syrian TV showed a healthy, smiling President Assad back at work. United Press International reported.

Meanwhile, President Amin Gemayel of Lebanon flew from Beirut to Rome Sunday afternoon for a visit with Prime Minister Bettino Craxi of Italy and Pope John Paul II before going on to Washington

Rome Says Parts For U.S. Missiles Are Now in Sicily

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

ROME — Italy's Ministry of Defense said Sunday that parts for new U.S. cruise nuclear missiles had arrived in Comiso, Sicily, a day after the government published a sharp exchange of messages between Prime Minister Bettino Craxi and the Soviet president, Yuri V. Andropov.

In Prague, meanwhile, the official news agency CTK said Saturday that Foreign Minister Bohuslav Choupek of Czechoslovakia has announced an agreement to deploy Soviet nuclear missiles on Czechoslovak territory.

A statement by the Italian ministry said: "The arrival of components for the missile arms systems due to be transported and subsequently assembled at Comiso has begun at the base of Sigonella."

The brief Italian communiqué did not say how many missiles were involved nor when they first arrived at a U.S. Naval Air Station at Sigonella, near Catania, in eastern Sicily.

Comiso is to get 112 cruise missiles, Italy's portion of the 572 U.S. nuclear missiles to be deployed in five member nations of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization over the next several years.

Last Wednesday, the Soviet Union walked out of talks at Geneva on limiting medium-range missiles. In a statement Thursday, Mr. Andropov said that the Soviet Union would take no further part in talks and would move to station more missiles in Eastern Europe and near the United States.

Paul H. Nitze, the U.S. negotiator at the Geneva negotiations, is scheduled to brief the Italian government Monday on the talks.

The Defense Ministry's statement Sunday, repeating what the Italian government had already told Parliament, said that the first missile systems were expected to be operational by March.

The announcement came less than 24 hours after Mr. Craxi's office published details of his response to a short message from Mr. Andropov, warning Italy against deploying the U.S. missiles.

In his message to Mr. Craxi, Mr. Andropov expressed regret that the

Italian government had decided, in a parliamentary vote Nov. 16, to go ahead with the missile deployment. The Soviet leader said that Moscow could only conclude that Italy did not care to keep good relations.

Mr. Craxi assured Mr. Andropov that Italy wanted such relations with the Soviet Union. But, he added, "good relations should not be confused with acquiescence in the face of any form of intimidation."

"Peace cannot be confused with a specific state of subjugation," Mr. Craxi wrote, noting that the Soviet Union had aggravated an existing nuclear imbalance in Europe by continuing to install new SS-20 missiles in the four years since NATO denounced the imbalance.

In Prague, Mr. Choupek told a Communist Party meeting that Czechoslovakia had agreed to deploy Soviet nuclear missiles on its territory, CTK said.

"No one doubts today that we are determined to do all that is necessary to strengthen our own defense capability," the agency quoted Mr. Choupek as saying.

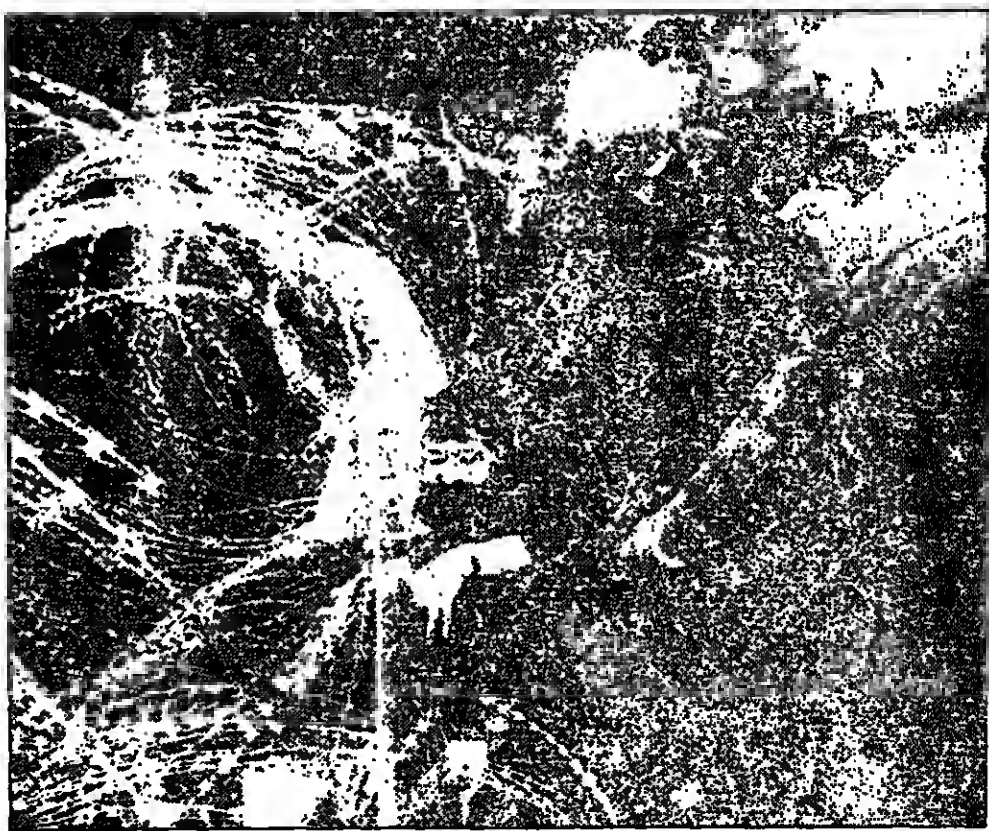
In addition, to breaking off the talks and placing more missiles in Eastern Europe, Mr. Andropov said Thursday that Moscow would abrogate its freeze on the deployment of SS-20 missiles in the European region of the Soviet Union and would deploy weapons in "ocean areas and seas" that would directly threaten the United States.

General Wlodzislaw Kwasniewski, chief of Poland's rocket and artillery forces, said in remarks published Saturday that 25 percent of the new NATO missiles scheduled to be deployed in Europe would be targeted on his country.

"We can suppose that 20 to 25 percent of Euro-missiles will be used on the territory of Poland," he told the Communist Party newspaper Trybuna Ludu.

(Reuters, AP, UPI)

Albania Accuses Bulgaria
Albania accused Bulgaria on Sunday of hypocrisy in supporting the idea of a nuclear-free zone in the Balkans while also approving of Soviet nuclear rearmament. Reuters reported from Vienna.



In West Germany, a man was helped after he fell into the barbed wire fence at the Mutlangen airfield, which demonstrators blockaded to protest U.S. Pershing-2 missiles.

U.S. Officials Skeptical Of Moves by Nicaragua

By Don Oberdorfer
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The Reagan administration has reacted skeptically to reports that Nicaragua may be altering both its foreign and domestic policies to meet long-standing U.S. objections.

Comments from the State Department spokesman, Alan D. Romberg, and from other officials who spoke on the condition that they not be identified, suggested that the administration is unconvinced that the Sandinist government in Managua is moving seriously to alleviate points of conflict with Washington.

A White House official with President Ronald Reagan in California set the tone for the U.S. reaction by expressing puzzlement about reports from Nicaragua. "We can't interpret the current actions down there," the official said.

Here are the reports from Nicaragua in the past several days and the responses of U.S. officials Friday.

● More than 1,000 Cubans, mostly schoolteachers, reportedly have left Nicaragua since the beginning of November.

One report said this was intended to lower the Cuban profile in Nicaragua, but Mr. Romberg said the departure of "about 1,000 Cuban teachers" appeared to be temporary and part of an annual end-of-year break in Cuba.

"We have no information to suggest that the Cuban military or civilian presence in Nicaragua has been reduced permanently," Mr. Romberg said.

He commented before the Nicaraguan interior minister, Tomas

Borge Martinez, was quoted as saying that Nicaragua is willing to send home its Cuban military advisers if the United States withdraws its military advisers and troops from Central America.

Mr. Borge is expected in Washington this week to explain Nicaragua's recent moves to members of Congress, the media and private groups.

● Reports from Central America said that Salvadoran rebel leaders have been asked to leave Nicaragua. But Mr. Romberg said, "We cannot confirm that the Salvadoran guerrilla presence there has been reduced."

● Nicaragua's assistance to guerrilla groups in the region and its closeness to Cuba and the U.S.S.R., he said, "remain issues of great concern to Nicaragua's neighbors and to the United States."

● On Dec. 4, the Nicaraguan junta will announce the date for long-promised elections, according to reports from Managua, which said that balloting was likely to be for a constituent assembly that would draft a new constitution.

A State Department official said the U.S. reaction would hinge on the nature of the elections, especially the extent of participation permitted the Nicaraguan people.

● Censorship of La Prensa, the most independent newspaper still publishing in Managua, is reported to have been reduced in recent days. The State Department confirmed this, but Mr. Romberg added that the paper is "still subject to prior censorship" and is forbidden to print certain items.

"In our view," Mr. Romberg (Continued on Page 2, Col. 2)



AT THE ELBE — U.S. and Soviet pallbearers wheel the coffin of Joseph Polowsky to a cemetery in Torgau, East Germany. Mr. Polowsky, whose U.S. unit met Red Army troops near Torgau in 1945, later campaigned for closer U.S.-Soviet ties. At right are the Rev. William Sloane Coffin Jr. and Mr. Polowsky's son, Ted. Page 6.

Conqueror of Polio Is Now Paralyzed

Albert Sabin Describes Pain That Made Him Want to Die

By Philip M. Boffey
New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Albert B. Sabin, the developer of a vaccine that helped to conquer polio, is paralyzed from the waist down after 10 days of such excruciating pain that he says he wanted to die and began to curse the mores of the medical profession.

The 77-year-old scientist appeared alert, articulate and reflective, although a bit hoarse, in an hourlong bedside interview as he recounted a six-month saga of progressive weakness, pain, paralysis and partial recovery.

This world-famous medical scientist, with access to the very best in hospitals and physicians, sounded much like any ordinary patient, with enormous respect for the skills of those who cared for him but with troubling doubts, too, about their judgment in refusing to relieve his agony and their alertness in watching all his symptoms.

Still, he acknowledges, things may turn out well. Now receiving rehabilitation therapy at the Clin-

ical Center of the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland, Dr. Sabin has already regained use of his arms and upper body. "Maybe I'll walk again," he says. "I expect to. I'm regaining some powers, fiber by fiber."

He said his troubles began in May, when he developed wobbly legs and an unsteady gait that caused him to fall down the steps at Georgetown University in Washington, where he was a visiting professor. Doctors thought he probably had a very severe cervical arthritis pressing on his spinal cord. But since surgery was deemed risky, he says, he donned a collar to support his neck and set off for Brazil to check on clinical trials for his new aerosol vaccine for measles.

But his condition got worse. So in mid-June, in "very great pain" but still able to hobble with a cane, he flew back to Washington and went straight from the airport to Georgetown University Hospital, where doctors proposed an immediate operation.

Johns Hopkins University Hospital in Baltimore on June 18 to undergo more elaborate diagnostic tests. There he was found to have a disease that has been known in Japan for 20 years but is extremely rare among Caucasians.

It involves the ossification, or transforming into bone, of a ligament at the posterior part of the canal in which the spinal cord resides. The result is that the bony structure compresses the cervical canal to a very narrow slit and squeezes the spinal cord as well.

Dr. Sabin spent the next month or so in a metal brace to keep his neck immobilized while doctors watched to see how his disease would progress. Finally, the surgeons operated to see if relieving the compression of the spinal cord would relieve Dr. Sabin's symptoms. Dr. Sabin was soon out of bed and walking, some of his symptoms disappeared, and on Aug. 15 he went home to his apartment in Washington.

But then he came down with (Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

INSIDE

Commonwealth leaders called on Washington and Moscow to resume "a genuine political dialogue." Page 2.

SpaceLab, the European space research vessel, takes off Monday aboard the U.S. shuttle Columbia. Page 3.

A revised code of canon law went into effect Sunday for the Western rite of the Roman Catholic Church. Page 5.

BUSINESS/FINANCE

President Marcos sends creditor nations to reshuffle much of the debt owed by the Philippines. Page 17.

IBM filed a \$7.5-billion lawsuit against National Semiconductor Corp. Page 17.

A SPECIAL REPORT

The real gravity of the world debt crisis may only be surfacing now. Euro-markets, Page 7.

TOMORROW

West Europeans have lost confidence in cooperation with the United States as a key to security, the latest IHT international poll finds.

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AMERICAN TOPICS

Grenada Invasion: A Recruitment Plus

In both quality and quantity, it has been a record-recruiting year for the U.S. military. The Pentagon says the Grenada invasion can share the credit.

All the armed services easily recruited the numbers of men and women they wanted in the year ending in September, for the third year in a row.

A record 91 percent of the enlistees were high school graduates, a group the Pentagon considers to be better prospective personnel than dropouts.

"We're getting the highest-quality people we've ever gotten and we're getting plenty of them," said Lawrence J. Korb, assistant secretary of defense for manpower.

The military life has become more attractive, the Pentagon believes, because of a rise in patriotism, higher pay and benefits, and an improved quality of life in the services — in addition to the poor economy and high unemployment of recent years, which made military service more attractive.

More recently, the bombing attack on the marines in Beirut and the U.S. invasion of Grenada last month were what Mr. Korb called "a plus overall" for recruiting. In the two weeks after the Beirut attack, the number of people taking service entrance exams rose about 10 percent.

"People sense there is a mission to be performed," Mr. Korb said. "They want to be involved."

Notes on People

Norman Bailey has left his White House post as a senior director of the National Security Council and special assistant to President Ronald Reagan to join the president's 1984 campaign as international economic affairs adviser. Mr. Bailey, 52, was appointed to the Republican National Committee's Commission on Foreign Policy and National Security Affairs, the official foreign policy working group for Mr. Reagan's re-election effort.

"Hard Hat Mack" may be just a game, but Thorne G. Anchor, head of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration says it's hardly fair play. In the video game, a blue-collar worker trying to build a skyscraper is up against exposed wires, falling objects and a particularly dangerous foe — an inspector from OSHA. Officials at the federal agency that enforces job safety standards weren't happy to see OSHA depicted as the worker's foe. "Let's be fair," Mr. Anchor wrote in a letter to the video game manufacturer, Electronic Arts of San Mateo, California. "Hard Hat Mack is a lot safer on the job with OSHA around. The makers maintain the game is only a satire."

Passing Grades

Without the Passes

A ban on teacher-student sex at the University of California's Berkeley campus has been proposed by a faculty committee, which says that romances can disrupt education and demoralize other students.

The proposal, made before the Assembly of the Academic Senate at the 30,000-student campus, calls faculty-student sex a "reprehensible breach of professional ethics." It does not call for punishment of faculty members engaging in sex with students, and the ban would apply only when teachers and stu-

dents share a mutual academic pursuit, such as a class or research.

Richard Abrams, chairman of the faculty committee that drafted the proposal, estimated there are "several dozen" relationships a year between faculty members and students. "Even a legitimate romance can be very disruptive to the educational process and demoralizing to other students," he said.

Portrait of the Artist As a Fund-Raiser

As working retreats for composers, painters, sculptors, novelists, playwrights and poets, the country's artists' colonies have encouraged an abundance of creative work. Now five of the colonies are taking a creative look at fund-raising, binding together for the first time to seek donations and publicize their impact on American culture.

United in the recently formed Fund for Artists' Colonies are Yaddo and Millay in New York, Ragdale in Illinois, the Fine Arts Work Center in Massachusetts and the Virginia Center for Creative Arts.

The fund, which drew a \$50,000 donation from the Ford Foundation last week, will be a clearinghouse for information, promotion and fund-raising campaigns.

A Full Box

Of Blue Eyes

Devotees of the Beatles already had a chance at total immersion, since Mobile-Fidelity Sound Labs offered the group's entire body of recorded works in a \$325 collection.

New Frank Sinatra fans — at least those with \$350 to spare — will have their turn.

In a 16-record collection, made from the original master



Frank Sinatra

tapes, the same firm presents much of Mr. Sinatra's work for Capitol Records from 1953 to 1962. Called simply "Sinatra," the roughly silver-bound set includes 205 selections from the period considered by many critics as the singer's finest.

One-Liners

Anesthesiologists are the highest-paid medical specialists, with a median income of \$150,200 a year, according to a national recruiting firm's survey; surgeons rank second at \$141,600, while pediatricians get a median \$74,020. The Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum is putting all of its one million aviation photographs onto 10 video disks to be sold at \$30 each. New York state's electric utilities will join the state government in funding a comprehensive three-year study of water quality and fish life in the Adirondack lakes, many of which are polluted by acid rain.

Billy Baldwin, 80, Dies; Was Dean Of U.S. Decorators

NEW YORK — Billy Baldwin, 80, the dean of American interior decorators, whose taste and sense of elegance enabled him to become the greatest influence on a generation of post-World War II designers, died of a heart ailment Friday in Nantucket, Massachusetts.

Mr. Baldwin, who distanced the term "interior designer," had such clients as Cole Porter, Billy Rose, Mary Wells Lawrence, the Paul Mellons, Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Mike Nichols and Diana Vreeland.

General Hugh Hester Dies; U.S. Foreign Policy Critic

NEW YORK (NYT) — Hugh B. Hester, 88, a brigadier general in the U.S. Army who after retirement became a fervent opponent of what he considered America's hard-line stance in the Cold War, died of cancer Friday in Asheville, North Carolina.

In World War I Mr. Hester fought in France and was named to the French Legion of Honor. In World War II, he served in Australia on the staff of General Douglas A. MacArthur, supervising all U.S. Army supplies in the Far East and winning a Silver Star.

Other deaths:

Eugene S. Hooper, 85, a former president of the Manufacturers Trust Co., now Manufacturers Hanover Trust, died of cancer Sunday in Englewood, New Jersey. He had retired in 1960.

William J. Shalek, 70, president of the Barber Steamship Line from 1974 until he retired in 1978, Monday in New Milford, New Jersey.

Spacelab Lifts Off Today Inside U.S. Space Shuttle

\$1-Billion European Research Craft Is Most Complex Ever to Go Into Space

By John Noble Wilford

New York Times Service

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida — The countdown has begun for launching the most expensive and complex scientific research facility ever put into space.

The 17-ton, \$1-billion European-built Spacelab, a pressurized unit the size of a bus, will be carried into orbit Monday in the cargo bay of the Columbia space shuttle.

The six-man crew, the largest assigned to a space flight, includes the first non-American to fly on a U.S. spacecraft. He is Dr. Ulf Merbold, a physicist from the Max Planck Institute in Stuttgart.

Liftoff was scheduled for 11 A.M. Monday, two days after the countdown began. The Spacelab, which will remain in the cargo bay at all times, will be brought back Dec. 7 for reuse on missions over the rest of the century.

For the Europeans, who designed, built and paid for Spacelab, the flight marks their debut in manned space technology. The laboratory was built in West Germany under the auspices of the 11-nation European Space Agency.

By all accounts, Spacelab is a technological success. James F.

Harrington, a Kennedy Space Center official in charge of preparing the craft, said, "It is by far the best new vehicle the agency has ever seen."

The mission will be international in other ways, too. The experiments were developed by scientists from the United States, Canada and Japan as well as the European Space Agency's member states.

Mr. Merbold and Dr. Byron K. Lichtenberg, an engineer at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, are the first non-astronauts to go into space aboard a U.S. craft. They and two astronauts with doctorates in engineering or science, Dr. Owen K. Garriot and Dr. Robert A.R. Parker, will supervise Spacelab operations.

John W. Young, who flew the Columbia on its maiden flight in April 1981, will be the mission commander. The other pilot will be Major Brewster H. Shaw Jr. of the air force.

The crew plans to work two 12-hour shifts each day, with one pilot and at least two scientists on duty at all times to carry out some of the most complex experiments ever conducted in space.

In some of the life-science investigations, the four scientists will be



Dr. Ulf Merbold, a West German physicist who will be on Spacelab, greeting Susy Young, wife of John W. Young, mission commander. At right is Dr. Merbold's wife, Birgit.

the subjects of experiments on how the human body adapts to weightlessness. Blood samples drawn from them will be analyzed for changes in red blood cells, hormones and the body's immunological system. The four men will be confined for a week after the flight for studies of their readaptation to gravity.

For astronomical studies, the Spacelab is equipped with X-ray and ultraviolet telescopes and a wide-field camera-telescope. U.S. and European instruments are to measure with greater accuracy the solar constant, which is the total radiant energy of the sun that reaches Earth and is the primary

driving force for the circulation of the Earth's atmosphere.

A particle accelerator built by Japan will be used to create artificial auroras in order to observe complex physical processes in the ionosphere.

Two Earth-observation experiments will also be carried out. One is an imaging radar system designed to transmit microwave beams that will be reflected back to a dish antenna to map the contours of the ocean surface and the land.

The other involves a high-resolution camera. The crew is to mount the camera in an optically "pure" window in the roof of Spacelab and take up to 1,100 images of terrain.

Reagan Seen Declaring Candidacy in January

By George Skelton

Los Angeles Times Service

SANTA BARBARA, California — Although there is no doubt that he is running for re-election, President Ronald Reagan probably will delay the official announcement of his candidacy until January. White House officials say.

One adviser here, where the president was spending the Thanksgiving weekend, said Mr. Reagan may wait until after his State of the Union address in late January before formally announcing his bid for a second term.

James A. Baker Jr., the White House chief of staff and principal political strategist, said last week that the president would "probably like to delay it even until his birthday." Mr. Reagan will be 73 on Feb. 6.

Mr. Reagan opposes early re-election announcements because, he contends, the public then regards every governmental action as politically motivated.

"But he's running — absolutely," Mr. Baker said.

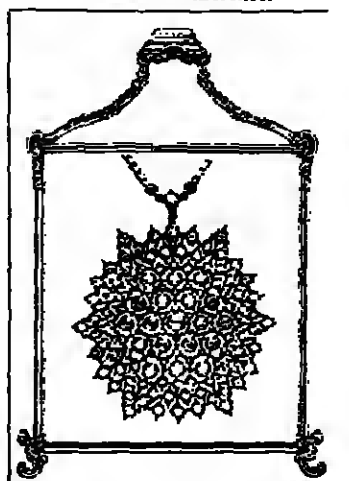
Mr. Baker believes the announcement should be linked to the annual State of the Union address to Congress. This event focuses attention on the president under the most favorable circumstances — as a statesman, rather than a politician.

Since he is unopposed in the Re-

publican primaries, Mr. Reagan will have the benefit, at least until the summer nominating conventions, of avoiding all-out campaigning.

"That's the best way to run as an incumbent — just being a good president," Mr. Baker noted.

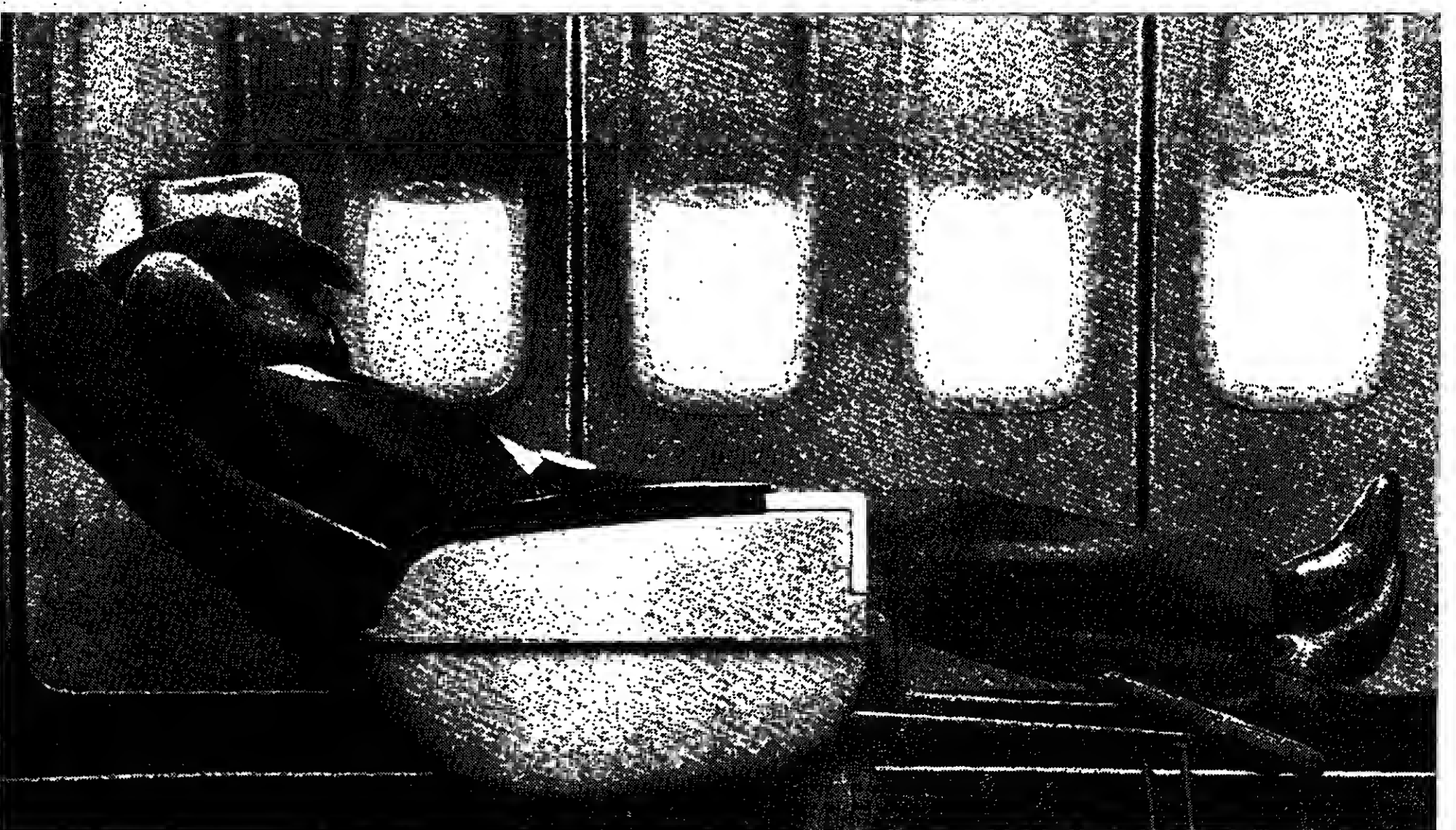
He stands to benefit politically from two foreign trips — one to China, in late April, and the other to Britain, probably in June, for an economic conference.



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Herald Tribune

Published With The New York Times and The Washington Post

The Alliance Has Held

Moscow had said it would react if NATO moved to deploy new missiles — the ones meant to counter Soviet SS-20s — and so it has. A new statement confirms that the Soviet Union is pulling out of the talks on European missiles and preparing its own new deployments against American and European targets. Presumably to show a puzzled world that these are the steps of a government with a head to it, the statement was issued in the name of Yuri Andropov, who has not been seen in public for more than 100 days.

Reasonable people can only welcome the disappearance of Soviet deluges from the INF negotiating table and the appearance of new missiles for which there was never any military need. The sequence sharpens the question of whether the superpowers are controlling their weapons or the other way around. Concern shows asymmetry, in official threats on the Soviet side and in popular anxieties and protests on the NATO side.

The anxieties and protests are in the news, and will remain at the center of politics in Europe. But it is important to note that the Europeans have debated the missiles for half a dozen years, that governments have put the issue explicitly to their voters and that the collective deployment decision has the strength and legitimacy that only an informed, open, democratic choice can have. This is not a development suddenly or surreptitiously thrust upon Europe by the United States.

Is it a development that America might have averted or softened by more skillful diplomacy? The performance of Ronald Reagan and, before him, of Jimmy Carter is open to criticism.

But most of it goes, we think, to tactics and to side issues involving the Western public's perception of American purposes. On the main issue — the solidarity of the alliance and the reliability of the U.S. guarantee — the American presidents have been right. Not always adept and sensitive, but right.

The painful truth is that very little in Moscow's performance in the last half dozen years suggests any other purpose in deploying SS-20s than to intimidate Europe. The Kremlin has grossly misread Western public opinion and official temper alike. It did its full share to close out what bits of negotiating room — the "walk in the woods" — came into view.

Helmut Schmidt, then West Germany's chancellor, summarized the issue succinctly in 1981. "We cannot do without the stationing of American medium-range weapons in Western Europe as long as the Soviet Union, with its new SS-20 missiles, poses a threat to the whole of Western Europe," he said. And "the Soviet Union has upset the military balance in Europe and created for itself an instrument of political pressure on the countries within the range of the SS-20, for which the West so far has no counterbalance."

Against this Soviet pressure, NATO has held. The deployment, however, is a somber occasion, certainly no victory for NATO. It is the difficult, necessary and continuing price that Moscow has forced the allies to pay to ensure the integrity of the alliance. The need remains to keep searching for diplomatic formulas that will lower the cost and the risk in maintaining free societies.

—THE WASHINGTON POST.

But Germany Is at Issue

The news is about new American missiles in Europe, threats of new Soviet deployments and the Soviet walkout from negotiations to regulate this phase of the arms race.

The underlying realities are these: It will take five years for all the new NATO missiles to be put in place. Any limit on Euro-missiles will have to be part of a global arms compact. No such pact seems possible until after the 1984 election in the United States.

Then why all the Soviet fury? Because the Kremlin — countering an American president who, it judged, was stalling all negotiations until he could acquire more missiles — has found profit in a political counterattack against the NATO alliance. The true contest concerns not Western Europe's weapons but its adherence to the United States. Above all, the struggle is about the future of Germany.

It was a vote in the Bundestag that cleared the way for the first new American weapons and the Soviet walkout in Geneva. And it was Helmut Schmidt, idly tossing paper airplanes at his fellow Social Democrats, who symbolized the faithful turn in German politics.

Six years ago, while chancellor, Mr. Schmidt requested the new weapons in compelling terms. Now, despairing, he abstained. Although outvoted 2 to 1, his Social Democrats and a new party, the Greens, were opposed. More, they were reticulating the dream that German destiny, and reunification, may be found in neutrality between East and West.

By significantly upgrading the weapons they kept aimed at Europe, the Russians had awakened much West German disquiet about NATO. What began as West German fear of the new Soviet weapons had turned into fear of American hostility.

The Russians' new Euro-missiles, the SS-20s, did not threaten the United States or Britain and France. But they did alarm many West Germans who have sworn nuclear weapons and depend for defense on NATO armies, backed by America's nuclear power. In imagining a Red Army assault, these Germans came to doubt that NATO would ever fire its

short-range nuclear weapons now that the Russians hold all European cities hostage. So Mr. Schmidt asked that U.S. missiles capable of striking Soviet cities be placed in the Red Army's path to guarantee him a nuclear shield.

In 1979 NATO agreed to deploy 572 such missiles, half in West Germany — unless Moscow agreed to scale back to a lower balance. As long as global arms control looked promising, so did these negotiations.

But as Soviet-American relations soured, the Russians turned to exploit the cracks in NATO. And they dangled a choice before West Germans, between perpetual danger in NATO and a safe neutrality leading to some kind of reunion with East Germany.

They played that siren song at high volume last week. Although they pronounced themselves newly threatened, they foresaw no difficulty protecting themselves. It was Germans they wanted to scare more by charging that America was again maneuvering to sacrifice Europe in a global war it could thus "win."

That is, of course, a preposterous argument. The main value of the American missiles is not military but political, precisely to guarantee America's involvement, alongside its Western allies, in any European conflict.

It is also preposterous to think that the Russians would soon relax their grip on East Germany if West Germany turned neutral. Even if disarmed, a unified Germany would become a powerful magnet drawing the rest of Eastern Europe out of the Soviet orbit. No one could damage NATO to compensate the Kremlin for such a mistake.

But German nationalism has been known to feast on such dreams. Now that nationalist sentiment has pushed a major party to an anti-NATO line, Germans are under pressure to judge not only the adequacy of American power but the quality of American leadership. The new struggle is not about how many warheads are finally deployed in Germany, but about how many Germans will continue to find pride and safety in alliance with America.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.



Now an Escalation That Wasn't Intended

By Tom Wicker

NEW YORK — It was an ironic coincidence — the Bundestag voting on the 20th anniversary of John Kennedy's murder to give final approval to Pershing-2 deployment on West German soil, six minutes from Soviet targets.

Kennedy came to recognize in his last year that, as he put it, if mankind didn't abolish nuclear weapons they would abolish mankind. Two decades later, with the number of warheads on both sides multiplied many times over, both sides continue to act upon the inverse logic that deploying more nuclear weapons is the right path to fewer nuclear weapons and greater security against the holocaust.

President Reagan and his cohorts are reported to be pleased with their success in beginning deployment of medium-range missiles in Europe, after years of intense Soviet opposition. In their view, apparently, deployment is a positive good, balancing a Soviet advantage.

But the other side of the story is that the Soviet "advantage" has existed since 1963, when Thor and Jupiter missiles were withdrawn from Europe as unnecessary to de-

terrence. Until 1977, moreover, Moscow kept more than 600 single-warhead SS-4 and SS-5 missiles aimed at Western Europe, with little protest from NATO or America.

In that year Moscow began deploying its modern, three-warhead SS-20 — a decision as shortsighted as the U.S. move to multiple-warhead missiles a decade earlier. So NATO took its two-track decision in 1979. One track called for the deployment, by December 1983, of 572 Pershing-2 and cruise missiles in Europe. The other sought negotiations with the Soviets to reduce the overall level of medium-range nuclear weapons in Europe.

Clearly the deployment track was meant as a bargaining lever — a threat that Moscow could avoid by reducing its medium-range missile force. But the Reagan administration took that track as a positive mandate to deploy U.S. missiles.

Lord's would raise the level of such weapons in Europe, contrary to the intent of the negotiating track.

The original NATO intent was to reduce the level of deployment of

medium-range weapons in Europe — not, if at all possible, to raise that level by equal U.S. deployment. And from the day of the two-track decision, Moscow has insisted on no U.S. deployment, since its view was that a rough parity in medium-range weapons in Europe already existed — its missiles against British and French missiles, U.S. forward-based aircraft and NATO's 400 submarine-launched warheads.

Nevertheless, in tacit acceptance of the Western view that deployment of the multiple-warhead SS-20 had given them a new advantage, Moscow has offered substantial reductions — most recently, on Oct. 26, to "about 140" SS-20s with 420 warheads, down from the present force of 243 SS-20s with 729 warheads plus about 200 old, single-warhead missiles. The 420 remaining warheads would in fact have been fewer than the number Moscow aimed at Western Europe before SS-20 deployment began in 1977.

Debatable, of course, is whether that is a sufficient Soviet reduction to reduce the level of deployment of

sued to make further cuts as the price for keeping the Pershing-2 out of Europe. Still, it is an achievement along the negotiating track, to which the deployment track was intended to lead bargaining power.

Mr. Reagan insists, however, that Moscow is not even bargaining seriously, since it continues to demand no U.S. deployment of medium-range missiles in Europe; to him that deployment seems more important than lowering the level of Soviet warheads aimed at Europe.

Now the Bundestag has acted, the four-year process of U.S. deployment has begun and the Soviet Union has broken off the negotiations as threatened.

Washington insists rather nervously that Moscow will come back after a face-saving interval and negotiate "seriously," now that it knows U.S. deployment can't be stopped. But, as Yuri Andropov indicated Thursday, this may be a dangerous illusion. Meanwhile, that deployment means an increase in the level of medium-range weapons in Europe, hence another needless leap in the nuclear arms race.

The New York Times.

The British After Kennedy: Ambivalent Mourning

By William Pfaff

LONDON — The 20th anniversary of John F. Kennedy's assassination assumed in Britain — at least for those who write and edit Britain's newspapers and produce its television — the proportions of national mourning. Coming from the Continent, where the anniversary certainly received attention but nothing like this, one has to ask why.

The answer, I think, lies in a persisting British ambivalence about what the British nation now stands for, or can become; and, underlying that, a divided mind about the United States, its faithful ally.

The attention paid to the anniversary seemed greater here than in America itself. Virtually every major newspaper had it as its principal feature, publishing excerpts from new biographies of President Kennedy and new histories of his administration, interviewing his past associates — Arthur Schlesinger, McGeorge Bundy, Pierre Salinger and others.

There were BBC specials on radio and television. Independent Television initiated the three-part Kennedy history that played not only here but simultaneously on NBC and in dozens of other countries.

Yet while John Kennedy was alive — and although he spoke well of Britain, and listened deferentially to Harold Macmillan at international meetings — he certainly did not like the British. The Kennedy presidency actually ended, for practical purposes, the "special relationship" established between the two countries in World War II.

The relationship survived the 1950s because Dwight Eisenhower was president and he, more than almost any other American, had been responsible for creating that relationship. He certainly was the man who made it work in the 1940s, when British and American armies, staffs and military traditions had to be put creatively together.

The blow to Britain that Mr. Eisenhower delivered in 1956, when he threatened financial reprisals if the Suez invasion went on, revealed Britain's loss of autonomy and its post-war decline in power, but it was also something that would only have been done by someone who felt as close to Britain as Eisenhower did.

The blow to British independence delivered in turn by John Kennedy, in abruptly cutting off the Skybolt missile program, was more cruel. The United States, for its own reasons, hardly noticing the consequences for Britain — canceled a joint weapons program upon which Britain had based the future of its independent nuclear deterrent.

Polish submarines and missiles were hastily substituted, in some embarrassment, for these made Britain totally dependent for its deterrent upon American willingness to go on supplying the missiles and the technology. Britain's subordination could not have been more nakedly stated. In fact, in the Kennedy years, West Germany replaced Britain as America's principal European ally.

Why, then, should Britain today so admire and mourn John Kennedy? The answer seems to me to lie not in what he did for me to Britain but in what he stood for as an American. Precisely because Britain did, in the

mid-20th century, choose to sink its international identity into the Atlantic relationship, it has needed to think well of the United States.

In 1940 there was a decision "to yield up the scepter to America," as Lord Lothian said.

It was certainly in the logic of events, but it was not inevitable. It was a deliberate choice, made originally to save Britain by encouraging the eventual American intervention in World War II. After that, Britain — or Britain's governing elite, certainly — resolved, as Harold Macmillan himself put it, to play Greece to the American Rome.

A fateful decision, and one with obvious consequences to the national sense of self-respect, but also toler-

able so long as the United States played Rome well — a triumphant, tolerant and republican Rome, worthy of admiration. It is this America, I think, that the British are recalling, and mourning, in John Kennedy. Justifiably or not, he seemed in so many ways to be America at its best, most brilliant, most energetic.

The British understood, as most Europeans did not, the moral and constitutional challenges subsequently posed for Americans under the Nixon administration. The United States, after John Kennedy, did not seem so wonderful.

For Americans themselves, that has presented problems, but also the possibility of their solution. For another nation, which has committed

itself to the relationship with the United States, and in an important way remade its own understanding of itself in terms of that relationship, what has happened in the United States strikes more deeply, and imposes a certain sense of impotence.

What does this choice, made by Britain 40 years ago, mean now? To what future has Britain committed itself? What price has been paid, and what has yet to be paid?

These mostly remain unspoken questions, but they exist, unasked, below the surface of the alliance with the United States. In mourning John Kennedy so extravagantly these last few days, the British have been recalling not America's lost innocence, but losses of their own.

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But See Here, There's Life After Empire

By Jonathan Power

LONDON — Dean Acheson once remarked — many here consider sagely — that Britain had lost an empire but not yet found a role.

Little could be so intoxicating as an empire. As a boy I collected Indian stamps that boasted the picture of George VI and, underneath, the inscription, "Emperor of India." Not even the French benefited that.

At their meeting in New Delhi last week, as the leaders of the Commonwealth drove past the grand buildings designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens — architecture, as one critic has observed, that was "built to intimidate" — to the vicerey's palace that is now the president's, some might have wondered if Acheson was right.

But I would surmise that some of them realized, 36 years after the modern Commonwealth was created, that time — rather than architecture, grandeur or military force — has allowed us to see that Britain has found a role, and one to make the superpowers rather jealous.

Gathered in New Delhi were some four dozen heads of government or their stand-ins, meeting at first in the presence of Queen Elizabeth II. All recognize her as head of the Commonwealth, and some, including Marxists and post-Marxist Grenada, as head of state as well.

The fact that those leaders were prepared to give a whole week to this exercise suggested that they did not regard it as yet another gathering. Most of them have known each other for years, meeting regularly through parliamentary exchanges or at one of the many Commonwealth get-togethers of ministers that precede any big international meeting.

For instance, two months ago Commonwealth finance ministers met in Trinidad to prepare for the joint International Monetary Fund and World Bank meeting a month later.

Over time, something has happened that Acheson may not have foreseen. The clubiness — the urge to stay together despite differences — has given these legacies of empire a rare quality, a sense of familiarity that on occasion leads to intimacy.

That may seem to be of minor consequence to the professors of realpolitik, but in real life it is a measurable asset. It did not arrive on the

doorstep of the Commonwealth partners like a military conquest, and it does not have the definiteness of a major international treaty like SALT-1. But it has something that force and treaties cannot buy.

The nearest competitor to it is France's special relationship with French-speaking Africa; but there is really no comparison. The Commonwealth brings together the world's largest democracy, India, half of Africa and the Caribbean, and the long-enslaved, mostly white former colonies of Australia, New Zealand and Canada. It crosses cultural, color, religious and time zones.

Intangible solidarity is probably the Commonwealth's most important asset — the ability to communicate in confidence, to think aloud without commitment. Members can call each other up and meet without the normal procedures of protocol.

Tangible solidarity is on the record. Arnold Smith, a former secretary-general of the Commonwealth and a Canadian, recalls how, at the meeting in Singapore in 1971, British Prime Minister Edward Heath had a bitter fight over his insistence that Britain would sell arms to South Africa and reactivate British presence at the Simonstown naval base on the

Cape. The Commonwealth appeared about to break up, and was saved in the end by a deft compromise engineered by Canada's Pierre Elliott Trudeau during a coffee break. The arms deals did not go through.

In Lusaka in 1979, when Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher appeared about to recognize the illegal regime in Rhodesia, Nigeria and Australia were instrumental in persuading her to give a negotiated solution one more try. It was a success, and free elections were held under Commonwealth supervision.

It was galling to the right wing in Britain, but Mrs. Thatcher pledged in Parliament the day before she left for this year's meeting in New Delhi that Britain would honor the Glenageary agreement of the 1977 Commonwealth meeting that prohibits sporting links with South Africa.

Mrs. Thatcher takes her Commonwealth obligations seriously. Can she, some Commonwealth officials have wondered, be liberalized as Edward Heath was before her? He became one of the Western world's most effective champions of economic and political reform on behalf of the Third World. Mrs. Thatcher probably did not need reminding that when the Commonwealth succeeds, it reflects well on Britain. Losing an empire may not be everything.

International Herald Tribune.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

For Buckley . . .

Regarding "The Question Remains: What if America Goes Up?" (IHT, Nov. 22) by William F. Buckley Jr.:

An hour ago, as we ate breakfast and listened to the BBC about the demonstrations everywhere against the installation of missiles in Britain and on the Continent, I said to my

American husband, "One wonders if the United States would not be better off to become isolationist." Then I read Mr. Buckley's column.

His article should be broadcast and televised in the United States, not once but many times, until it sinks into the dull minds of those clamoring for disarmament. Will the world never learn from the past?

EILEEN SCHLESINGER, Zurich.

. . . and Against

Mr. Buckley makes a mockery of a deadly serious issue. He gives us only two choices: either a perilous nuclear buildup or one-sided American dis-

(Continued on Page 5)

Helping Russia Evolve

By James H. Billington

WASHINGTON — Americans cannot directly determine in any important way how the Soviet Union will evolve. Nor should they look for a maturing society with its own traditions to replicate or even approximate their own. However, as the Soviets' principal adversary and object of fascination, America is more involved in the Soviet evolution than it may realize.

To me this suggests a need to begin, in the second half-century of relations, a far more comprehensive Soviet-American dialogue than was attempted in the first 50 years.

The first need at this time of dangerously diminished dialogue is for increased but more clearly defined contacts. All dialogue, especially at the higher levels, should be respectful in tone, particularly as the Russians crave respect and may invisibly mimic America's model. The dialogue should be of three quite different types, each with a different objective.

First, with the vestigial Stalinist oligarchy that is still in charge, dialogue should be tough and specific. One should never be soft and general with Stalinists. The "general principles" of the 1972 Soviet-U.S. summit facilitated rather than forestalled Soviet advances. Ingratulating approaches taken for domestic political reasons are invariably received as a sign of weakness and an invitation to further manipulation.

It is also important that there be only a single, substantive dialogue on the high strategic questions, because unity, like firmness, is essential for closing a deal. One should feel neither intimidated by threats of a walk-out nor comforted by promises of demonstrations of flexibility to win vague goodwill. The older leaders know about war and almost certainly want an agreement in this area.

Second, with the broader society and the postwar generation, the need is for an exploratory dialogue that is generous and general rather than tough and specific. Vastly expanded exchanges with this generation now might help build a basis for more comprehensive agreement later.

The social basis for repression in the U.S.S.R. today is the combination of a swollen state and a weak society. Broadened American exchanges with Soviet society as a whole — on a professional, regional, educational, cultural and purely random basis — would encourage the elements that make for civic responsibility. Economic contacts could suggest new models for management and encourage the kind of self-respect that might make Russians less psychologically dependent on gaining respect through the military.

Third, a new category of dialogue would involve Russians and Americans with other countries in discussing and developing a new global agenda — perhaps looking to the year 2000. Such a format would provide the model for the next generation of Russians, who must look to the West for new approaches to world order.

Many of the problems are themselves multinational, and new ideas may be easier to accept if there are new forums that are multinational rather than bilateral.

The continuing thermonuclear confrontation requires the first type of contact: tough and specific and at the highest level. Both sides have an overriding responsibility not to leave the nuclear negotiating table until they have begun to reduce the global menace they have co-authored, and not to make this overriding issue hostage to other issues.

The ideological aspect of confrontation is an ideal element for the broader level of dialogue that brings in the younger Soviet generation not yet in power. The peaceful discussion of ideas with that generation might help check the inertial drift of the vestigial Stalinists into endorsing revolutionary violence in distant places.

Almost certainly the traditional imperial aspect of Soviet policy will increasingly become a greater concern of Russia's Eurasian neighbors than of America. Since the problem of borders involves deep psychological sensitivity on the Russian side and the very existence of many neighboring peoples, it should not be left to the play of chance but discussed in the third type of multinational dialogue over a long period of time.

There is clearly a need to increase support for Russian studies throughout America, and there should probably be one high-level place in government to provide comprehensive analysis and policy coordination for all dealings with the U.S.S.R.

No longer can there be any room for illusions about a governing group that, in the Stalin era, produced one of the two greatest, sustained, state-sponsored sets of atrocities against its own subjects in the 20th century. There can be no excuse for weakness in dealing with those who have ceased in the last 20 years to permit talk about, let alone restitution for, the horror on which their power rests.

But America does not have to lower its guard to raise its sights. It can invent new forms of dialogue, reach limited agreements, and perhaps even devise new forms of joint activity that can substitute cooperation for confrontation. The coming Soviet generation would welcome fresh initiatives. In seeking a non-Stalinist path into the future, it will want better links with both its own deep past and its broad, contemporary experience.

However, it might just prove harder to take small steps than big ones.

This is the third of three articles adapted from "The Washington Post." The writer is director of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington and has written "The American Cultural Revolution."

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China May Cancel Zhao's U.S. Trip Over 'Unpleasant Incidents,' Hu Says

By Sam Jameson
Los Angeles Times Service

TOKYO — Prime Minister Zhao Ziyang of China might cancel his visit to the United States in January if the Reagan administration fails to rectify "one or two

recent unpleasant incidents," according to Hu Yaobang, leader of the Chinese Communist Party.

Speaking at the Japan National Press Club, Mr. Hu said Saturday that China had officially asked for an explanation from the Reagan administration about a resolution

on Taiwan's future recently adopted by the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

"If there is no satisfactory answer, we would have to reconsider — even right before departure — whether the trip should be made, as scheduled," Mr. Hu said.

He said, however, that "we do not desire a cancellation of the visit to the United States."

He also reiterated past declarations that China considers improvement of its relations with the United States "important to world stability."

Mr. Hu did not say whether a cancellation of Mr. Zhao's trip would result in cancellation of a Chinese invitation to President Ronald Reagan to visit China next spring. However, both visits were announced simultaneously when Secretary of Defense Caspar W. Weinberger visited Beijing in September.

The trip to Japan by Mr. Hu, 68, was his first ever to a non-communist country.

He said that since the mutual exchange of visits between Mr. Zhao and President Reagan was decided, "one or two unpleasant incidents" have occurred. In his press conference, he mentioned only one: the Foreign Relations Committee's resolution on the future of Taiwan.

Mr. Hu said the "vital point" to which China objected was a declaration in the resolution calling for "all people on Taiwan" to approve any unification of the island with mainland China in the future. China claims sovereignty over the island.

In a meeting Thursday with Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone, Mr. Hu identified the other "unpleasant incident" involving the United States. It was Mr. Reagan's reference to Taiwan by its official title, the Republic of China, and a pledge by Mr. Reagan not to abandon Taiwan.

Both statements were made during Mr. Reagan's Nov. 9-12 visit to Japan.

At his press conference Saturday, Mr. Hu also said China saw no need to develop relations with Washington beyond present levels.

Asked about the defection of a Chinese diplomat in Chicago on Friday, Mr. Hu indicated that Beijing would not make an issue of it.

Mr. Hu earlier met leaders of Japan's six leading business organizations and asked for their cooperation in developing coal mines and building hydroelectric and nuclear power plants in China.

During a lunch with Prime Minister Nakasone and his wife, Mr. Hu added precious metals, nonferrous metals and all forms of energy resources to the list of raw materials that he said China wanted Japan's help in developing.

Mr. Hu told both the business executives and Mr. Nakasone that China would be willing to allow Japanese companies to establish wholly owned subsidiaries and exercise complete control of their management, instead of setting up joint ventures with Chinese governmental corporations.



Li Shuang, a Chinese artist, and her French fiancé, Emmanuel Bellefroid, after being reunited in Paris.

Chinese Painter Is Reunited With French Fiancé in Paris

Reuters

PARIS — Li Shuang, a Chinese abstract painter sent to a labor camp in 1981 for living with a French diplomat, has been reunited with her fiancé in Paris.

The couple embraced as Miss Li, 27, arrived Saturday from Beijing, where the authorities gave her permission to leave Friday.

Chinese-French relations were strained by Miss Li's sentence in late 1981 to two years in a labor camp for re-education after being charged with "incitement to debauchery" — living in a foreigners' compound with Emmanuel Bellefroid, the French cultural attaché.

Chinese authorities go to extreme lengths to discourage contact between foreigners posted to China and Chinese citizens.

But diplomats in Beijing believe the real reason Miss Li was jailed was because of the links she and Mr. Bellefroid maintained with Chinese dissidents.

Mr. Bellefroid was effectively expelled after being accused of acting in a manner incompatible with his diplomatic status.

Miss Li was released last July, before the end of her sentence.

"I'm convinced that without the support of public opinion and the press, I would never have been reunited with Li Shuang," Mr. Bellefroid said at the airport. "Now we're going to get married and be happy."

Miss Li, speaking in Chinese, said she loved her family and country and intended to return at some point.

She told a French journalist she wanted to get married as soon as possible, but completely in accordance with Chinese law. She added that she hoped to resume painting.

News of Miss Li's arrest broke during a visit to Beijing by Michel Jobert, then the French foreign trade minister, in November 1981. Mr. Jobert unsuccessfully interceded for the couple with Chinese leaders, and the incident cast a pall over Chinese-French relations.

News that Miss Li had been allowed to leave the country came just a few weeks before China and France are due to celebrate the 20th anniversary of their establishment of diplomatic relations.



United Press International

A man believed to be a Chinese courier guarding two diplomatic pouches in New York after two couriers on a San Francisco-to-New York flight quarreled and one asked for political asylum after the plane landed in Chicago.

Chinese Courier, on a Jet Over U.S., Asks Asylum

By Andrew H. Malcolm
New York Times Service

CHICAGO — A Pan American World Airways transcontinental flight made an unscheduled stop here Friday after a passenger, a diplomatic courier for China, asked for political asylum.

The incident also reportedly involved a dispute on board the aircraft between the would-be defector and another Chinese courier over possession of diplomatic pouches they had brought aboard the plane in San Francisco.

After the loud dispute, which occurred when the Boeing 747 jumbo jet was about one hour's flying time west of Chicago, Captain Gerald Dion, the pilot of Pan Am Flight 72A, decided to land at O'Hare International Airport.

Captain Dion radioed ahead for assistance, and State Department and Immigration and Naturalization Service officials, as well as federal and local law enforcement authorities, met the flight.

After three hours, the Chinese defector, whose name was reported to be Yang, left the aircraft, and the plane continued on its way toward Kennedy International Airport in New York. There were no reports of injuries among the 88 passengers, 11 flight attendants and three cockpit crewmen.

The courier, who left the plane, was taken into custody by agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the State Department and was taken to an undisclosed location. The other courier, with all the diplomatic pouches, continued on the flight.

Tom Coffin, customer service manager at the airport, said later: "The captain on board felt it was in his best interests for the safety of all the passengers to land in Chicago. There was no concern by any of the passengers."

According to John Drummond, the city's deputy aviation commissioner, a controversy erupted between the two couriers when the plane was near Chicago. A Pan Am

spokesman described the incident as beginning with "some sort of heated discussion" between the two men, who were seated on different levels of the 747 aircraft.

One of the men then reportedly told a flight attendant that he wanted to seek political asylum. While the other courier stood by an aircraft closet containing the diplomatic pouches, the flight attendant informed Captain Dion.

According to the airline official, the pilot decided to land and "sort it out on the ground."

"When the plane landed," Mr. Drummond said, "it was held until the situation was resolved."

The officials said privately that they feared the reactions of the non-defecting courier if the plane's doors opened suddenly.

By Kenneth A. Baggis
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — A revised code of canon law for the Western rite of the Roman Catholic Church went into effect Sunday, nine months after it was promulgated by Pope John Paul II.

The revision includes nearly 1,700 laws, 700 fewer than the previous code, which was released in 1917. Because canon law is a procedural guide, subordinate to dogma, it is open to diverse interpretations.

Revision of the code, which governs Catholic practice by specifying the pragmatic implications of the church's basic teachings, took place over a 17-year period and was called for by Pope John XXIII in 1960 on the day he summoned the Second Vatican Council.

For most Catholics, the formal institution of the revised code, mostly ratifies changes that have already taken place in the last de-

cade rather than introducing new practices.

The most notable exception for American Catholics is that the church will be required to give up a simplified system of marriage tribunals that had become a more expeditious means of handling the thousands of requests for annulments that are made every year.

In broad terms, the Vatican Council's main emphases on the church are central concepts in the revised code. Hierarchical and clerical powers remain intact but are somewhat played down in favor of seeing the church as a cooperative unit composed of interacting parts.

Further reflecting the Vatican Council's outlook, the revised code stresses the function of shared authority and the needs and rights of Catholic people. It is generally regarded by canon lawyers as less legalistic and more directed toward

encouraging the faithful than imposing discipline upon them.

Parish councils, finance commissions and priests' senates are all incorporated as new elements in the revised code. Members of the laity are officially made eligible for such responsibilities as serving communion and holding positions as diocesan chancellors. Women are certified to sit on marriage tribunals, but otherwise their status remains basically unchanged.

The biggest impact of the revised code, according to Catholic officials, is to prod laggardly dioceses into carrying out Vatican Council reforms.

In the revised code, the purpose of canon law is largely understood to be a means of inspiring individuals to accept church teaching rather than a punitive means of chastising lawbreakers. The list of offenses requiring excommunication has been greatly reduced.

New Argentine Leaders Said to Reject N-Pacts

By Jackson Diehl
Washington Post Service

BUENOS AIRES — The director-general of the International Atomic Energy Agency says that members of Argentina's incoming

democratic government have indicated that they will not change the country's long-standing policy of refusing to accept international safeguards for Argentina's advanced nuclear plants.

Hans Blix of Sweden, the agency head, said Friday that he had again urged Argentina to accept such safeguards.

He met Thursday with Raúl Alfonsín, the Argentine president-elect, and earlier became the first international official to visit a new Argentine plant for enriching uranium.

In mid-November, the Argentine authorities announced the existence of the facility in southern Patagonia and said it made Argentina the ninth country in the world with uranium-enrichment capacity. Enriched uranium can be used to produce nuclear weapons.

Mr. Blix said that the new enrichment plant has been described by Argentine officials as capable of enriching uranium by a factor of only 20 percent, well below the level needed for weapons.

The incoming government "is contemplating the way it will handle the nuclear industry," he said, and "discussions we have been pursuing with Argentina for a long time on a safeguards agreement will continue."

Mr. Alfonsín issued a statement Thursday saying that Argentina's nuclear program would be limited "to exclusively peaceful ends."

New Code of Canon Law Takes Effect, Ratifying Changes in Catholic Church

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

(Continued from Page 4)

armament with subsequent Soviet domination. His "Soviet beast" is no less dangerous than the American beast. Both sides must disarm.

DAVID S. MILLER
Copenhagen

It is obvious that the West must speak from strength if it means to do business with the Russians. But the West is already strong. How in heaven's name can more atomic weapons be the answer?

J.A.C. RUPERT
Blonay, Switzerland

The remaining question, contrary to Mr. Buckley's absurd argument, is: When will he and people like him give up? For years the American people have been subject to hysterical anti-Soviet propaganda ("the Soviet beast"). This mentality is archaic and people should realize it. Why are the most conservative spokesmen so afraid of disarmament? What have they to lose that the more liberal human beings of America have not?

I for one cannot bury my head in the quicksand of religion and find my satisfaction in the hereafter. And perhaps it is because I am

young that I care about future generations and the "100 million Americans" who would die — even if they "are going to die one of these days" in any case.

You do not prevent cancer by stockpiling cigarettes.

JULIE HOWELL
Paris

Mr. Buckley's statement that the 100 million Americans who would be killed in a full-scale nuclear war "are going to die one of these days without nuclear armaments" is almost every case more painful than is so frighteningly irrational that it precludes intelligent comment.

SUSAN CHRISTIAN
Paris

Against Lewis, Too

It's getting increasingly difficult to tell the difference between a Tass release and a column by Anthony Lewis. Do we need both?

CARL KOCH
Frankfurt

Kennedy: A Demurrer

Regarding John F. Kennedy and a Nation's Vanished Dreams (HT, Nov. 21) by Tom Wicker:

Your front-page headline to the

effect that America's dreams vanished with President John F. Kennedy is quite incredible.

Many Americans think that America's problems today can be attributed largely to Kennedy. Internationally, he was responsible for making a permanent fixture out of Castro and communism in Central America — by refusing air and naval cover for the Bay of Pigs invasion and then pledging to Khrushchev never to attack Castro; and it was Kennedy who began putting U.S. troops into Vietnam on a massive scale.

It is also utterly untruthful to claim that he was the major force for the rights of the American black. President Kennedy largely ignored the blacks and the civil rights movement at first.

The American dream has vanished? Anyone who knows America and the rest of the world well can constantly feel the creative urge of America and the lack of it elsewhere. America is quite possibly the only place in the world where the means to actively pursue dreams are freely available to the individual, whoever he is.

M.K. GREIVEN
Barr, France

America and Europe

In response to "Time to Withdraw U.S. Forces From Europe" (Letters, Nov. 14) from Laurence J. Roddy:

Professor Roddy, no matter how well-intentioned, typifies those in the West who stubbornly believe that gradual withdrawal of U.S. troops from Western Europe might stimulate similar moves by the Soviet Union in Central and Eastern Europe. To put a mark of equation, even by implication, between that brutal enslavement by the Soviet Union and the American presence in Western Europe borders on absurdity.

The writer suggests ways for a gradual surrender of Western Europe to the Soviet Union. He also talks about "legitimate security interests" of the Soviet Union in the east-central part of Europe. The fact is that the independent Polish state before World War II, even under an allegedly unfriendly (read: anti-communist) regime, was no security threat to Russia.

On the contrary, the Soviet Union bore a heavy share of responsibility as a co-perpetrator of military aggression against Poland.

Today the Polish nation contin-

ues its seemingly hopeless struggle for a more independent form of statehood. This is perhaps one of the "perils" that worry Professor Roddy so much. Also, a lasting peace in Europe must include the whole European continent.

Only by relinquishing its tight colonial grip over Eastern and Central Europe can the Soviets provide proof of their peaceful intentions. And only if that happens can the role of NATO in Europe be rendered largely superfluous.

J. MONDRY
London

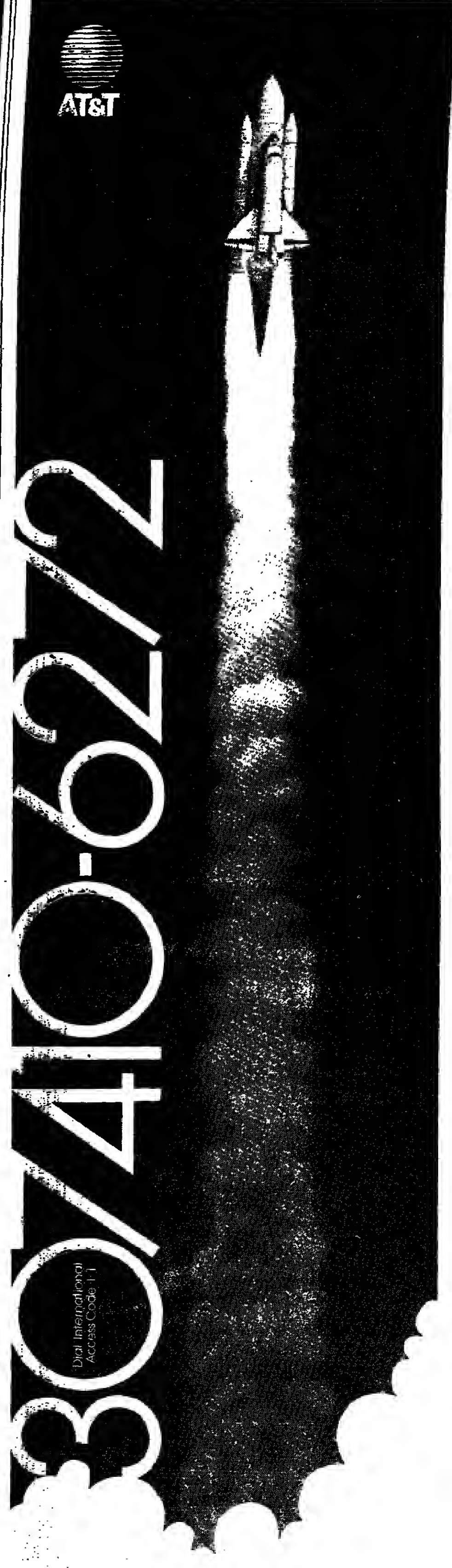
The Grenadian Choice

Regarding "U.S. Caribbean Troops Hold Hundreds Suspected of Link With Bishop, Council" (HT, Nov. 14) by Loran Jenkins:

What's this I read about the establishment of a pro-Western government in Grenada? I understood that the Grenadians were to be free to choose which kind of government they want now that the Cubans, Russians, Libyans, Bulgarians and North Koreans have been killed or sent packing.

PAUL ROMANO
Cologne

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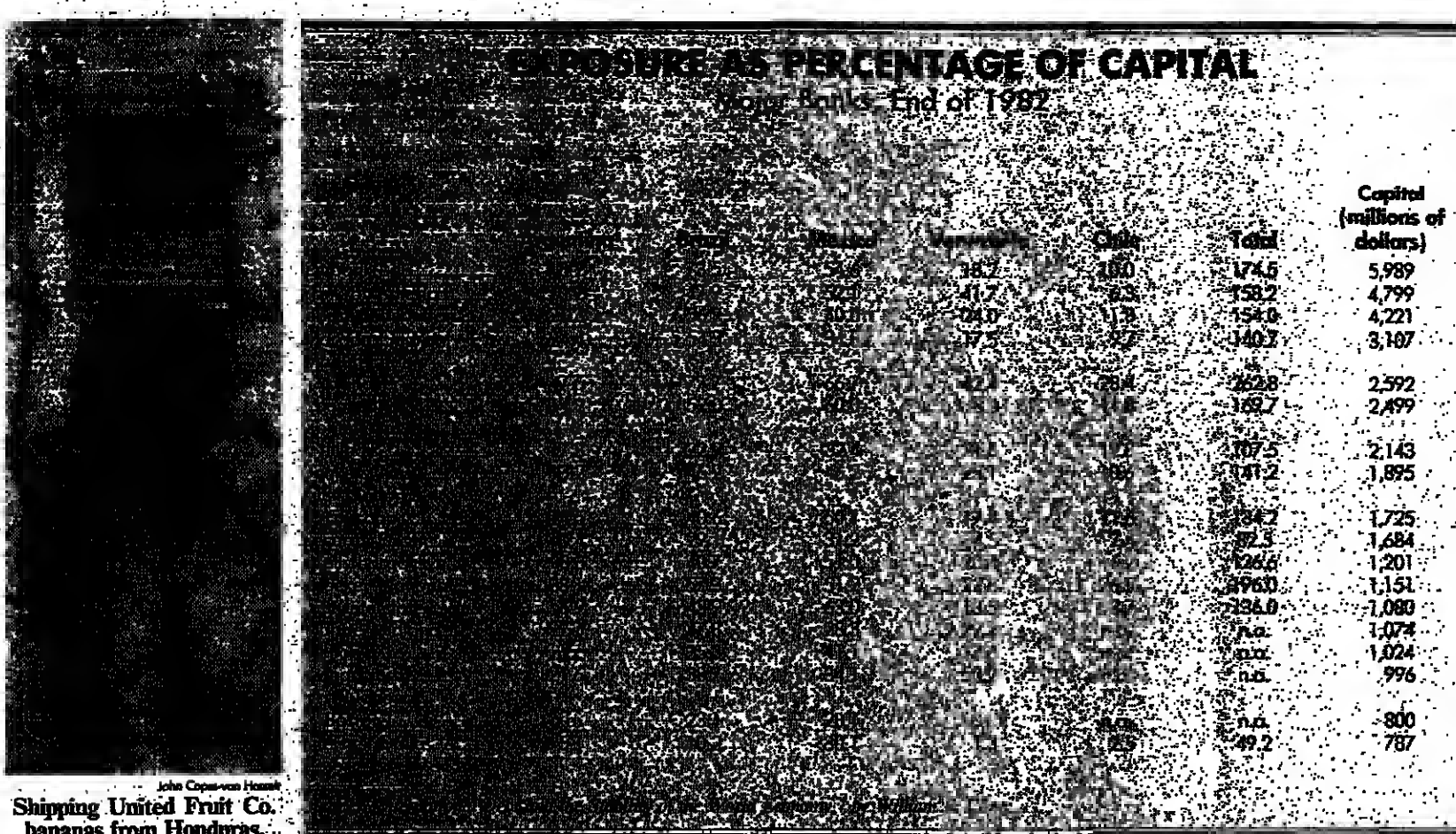
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Nov. 28	11:00 EST	Dec. 7 11:11 EST

*Lift-off and landing times are always subject to last-minute changes. Check before you call.

EUROMARKETS

A SPECIAL REPORT — PART I
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1983

Part II Will Appear
In Tomorrow's Editions
Page 7



Loan Burden Threatens Latin American Stability

By William A. Orme Jr.
MEXICO CITY — While the debt crisis in Mexico may appear temporarily resolved, the burden of unpaid foreign loans still threatens the political and economic stability of nearly every nation from Mexico City to Tierra del Fuego at the tip of the continent, analysts said.

The possible outcome of the crisis — a region-wide suspension of debt servicing and a drastic plunge in area investment and trade — would not only effectively paralyze Latin America's largest economies, Mexico's included, but also would disrupt world commerce and finance on a scale unknown for half a century, according to these experts, who are among the region's top economic officials and public-sector financial analysts.

Last year, Latin America was hit by what the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA) called its "most profound economic crisis since the Great Depression of the 1930s." After more than three decades of economic expansion of nearly 6 percent annually, the region's economic growth stopped abruptly in 1982. In every Latin American country, except Panama and Cuba, per-capita income registered a real decline, dropping in many cases below the levels of a decade ago, and prospects for significant new growth suddenly seemed in most to be several years distant.

Catalyzing this painful turnaround, officials said, was the refusal of foreign bankers earlier this year to roll over the short-term loans they had automatically and even eagerly renewed in the past. While private lenders had funneled \$11.7 billion in new loans to the region in the first semester of 1982, foreign commercial financing in the second half of the year collapsed to \$300 million.

"It started as a bankers' panic, not a genuine financial crisis," said a Latin American economic analyst, reflecting a common view in the region. But "the crisis is quite genuine now," he added.

Latin America, according to an unpublished ECLA report circulating in offices of the finance ministries and central banks throughout the region, simply cannot repay its \$300-billion debt unless lenders reschedule payments on much more generous terms and provide at least \$35 billion in fresh financing before 1986.

The alternative, the report said, is for the region's nations to adopt far stricter economic austerity measures, with "all the serious economic, social and political consequences that implies," or to "declare a unilateral [debt-servicing] moratorium, as the majority of them did in the 1930s."

The "Brazilian road show" of the president of the central bank, Alfonso Celso Pastore — a world-touring attempt to convince commercial, multilateral and Western government lenders to give Brazil another \$9 billion by the end of next year — is encountering stiff resistance. Before forwarding their \$6.5-billion share, \$3 billion of which the Brazilians said they need immediately, commercial bankers are waiting to see if the IMF will renew the \$4.6-billion credit pact it

(Continued on Following Page)

True Gravity of Debt Crisis May Only Now Be Visible

By Carl Gewirtz
PARIS — Fifteen months is too long for any crisis — especially one in which no shots are fired — to remain a critical issue.

Endless negotiation and renegotiation to contain the crisis borrows the public and creates a sense of false security, even among the negotiators, that modulating through is an acceptable substitute for finding solutions.

And so it is with the potentially catastrophic debt crisis of Latin America.

Despite the manifest complacency, a number of experts believe that the enormity of the debt problem is only about to surface — the result of the scarcity of international credit and the limits on countries such as Mexico and Brazil to suppress their foreign currency requirements by wringing out imports.

The official view, as expressed by the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank, the Bank for International Settlements and their leading member governments, is that continued austerity in the debtor states coupled with somewhat faster world economic growth will keep the debt problem contained to manageable proportions.

"It will be very difficult," one central banker said, "to get commercial banks to repeat next year the very modest 1983 performance of increasing their international exposure" to developing countries. "On the other hand, I'm inclined to think the U.S. business upswing will continue, and modestly spread to other OECD countries. If that happens, the financing needs of the developing countries may decline more than expected."

"It's an open question which will be first: Will the slowdown in bank lending create very difficult conditions, or will the U.S. recovery produce a sharp improvement in the situation of developing countries?"

But economists outside official policy circles decry the excessive optimism about developing countries being able to sustain a policy of austerity and about growth prospects in the industrialized world. And they lament the absence of what they call serious efforts to develop long-term solutions.

The measures of complacency are many. One is the value financial markets put on the securities of the most exposed commercial banks. When the crisis erupted following Mexico's unilateral declaration of a 90-day payments moratorium in August 1982, the rate of interest U.S. banks were forced to pay for one-month money shot up to 400 basis points over comparably dated U.S. Treasury securities.

Today, that margin is down to 50 points.

A more meaningful measure of complacency is the official inaction to improve the economic environment. Everyone agrees that two conditions are absolutely necessary if the debt problem is to be contained within manageable proportions:

- Economic activity in the industrialized world must expand by at least 2½ percent a year through 1986 and trade barriers must come down to provide hard-currency export earnings for the raw material and manufactured goods of the developing countries.
- And interest rates must decline. Lower rates are needed to both foster the economic recovery and to lessen the debt burden. Each percentage-point decline in interest rates cuts an estimated \$3 billion off the debt burden. And each percent rise in economic growth among the 24 nations of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development is estimated to equal a 5-percentage-point drop in interest rates.

Interest rates have declined. The London interbank offered rate (Libor), on which the bulk of the Third World's commercial debt is based, peaked at 13½ percent in the weeks after Mexico's moratorium and subsequently fell to 8½ percent. But Libor is currently 10 percent — and rising.

OECD economic growth, thanks to a strong advance in the United States, is rising at about a 3½-percent annual rate — double the recession rate estimated for the first six months of this year.

But doubts persist about the durability of that growth because of the exceedingly large U.S. budget deficit, current and projected, and the impact that financing such shortfalls will have on U.S. interest rates.

As noted, rates are already picking up. The dollar, after declining from its post-devaluation highs set in August, is again climbing and severely constricting the ability of other OECD countries to lower their interest rates to fuel their economic growth.

The size of the current-account deficit developing countries will have to finance hangs on the outcome of expansion in the industrialized world, the level of interest rates and the value of the dollar. The current account includes the trade balance and capital flows — of which the most important are payments of interest and principal to service their debt.

The current-account deficit of the nonoil developing countries peaked in 1981 at \$78 billion, with more than half — \$42 billion — financed by bank loans.

This year, the deficit is projected to total \$45 billion — down from the \$51 billion estimated at mid-year due to the slashing of imports by such countries as Mexico and Brazil. The 1984 deficit is forecast to remain virtually unchanged at \$44 billion.

But bank loans are decreasing. Last year they accounted for 42 percent of the current-account deficit and this year they are projected to cover a little more than one-third. In addition, more than half of this

(Continued on Following Page)

Asian Offshore Banking: The Shakeout Continues

Special to the IHT
TOKYO — A year ago, the future of offshore banking in Asia seemed settled. Hong Kong looked set to make even more money out of the booming syndicated loan market. Singapore's foreign-exchange dealing activity was reaching record levels, urged on by the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS). Tokyo's bankers and bureaucrats were mulling over the conclusions reached by a high-powered survey mission that had visited the world's offshore centers — a step widely interpreted as the first on the path to a Tokyo offshore banking market.

Today, things look different.

Syndication managers in Hong Kong are trying to cope with a market that is less than half the size of 1982's. The MAS has turned its dealing business more to Europe and the United States, and the offshore banks — the Asian Currency Units (ACUs) — in Singapore have stopped growing after years of very rapid increases in assets. And in Tokyo, the idea of offshore banking has been bowed back to the end of the queue of proposals for liberalizing Japan's financial markets.

Part of the unexpected contraction of offshore banking activity in Asia in 1983 can be attributed to the general slowdown in demand for international financing — a slowdown that has been much more abrupt than many bankers expected, even given the known likelihood of default by major debtors.

About \$145 billion worth of international syndicated loans were arranged in 1982. Hong Kong, as the syndication center for Asia, had more of the business than either Singapore or Tokyo. Between \$6 billion and \$7 billion of those loans were signed in Hong Kong, against about \$3.5 billion in Tokyo (the dollar value of syndicated credits denominated in yen), and about \$2.5 billion in Singapore.

During the first 10 months of this year, however, about \$65 billion worth of international credits were arranged, against the \$130 billion or more in the same period of 1982. To a limited extent, the Asian centers of international finance have been less affected than their colleagues in the Euromarkets or in the United States. The supply of funds to Asian countries has not dried up to the same dramatic extent that it has in the case of lending to Eastern Europe, Latin America or Africa, because banks by and large are still happy to lend to

many of the newly industrialized countries of Asia — the bankers' creed being, in this as in other instances, that those who do not need, get. Even so, less than \$10 billion in new syndicated funds has found its way to Asian countries this year, against about \$15 billion last year, and the flow of funds in the future is likely to be even more cautious because of the imminent renegotiation of the Philippines' debt and continued worries over Indonesia (hurt by falling oil prices) and South Korea (with a large outstanding debt to service).

The contraction in Asian-dollar finance has been matched by a similar slowdown in the provision of yen funds. Japan's banks were authorized by the Ministry of Finance to extend about 700 billion yen (\$3 billion) in new yen credits during

(Continued on Page 14)

Need for IMF Funding Brings Fierce Debate

By Sharon Walsh
WASHINGTON — The International Monetary Fund has been faced with one dilemma after another as it has attempted to fulfill its role as global lender, while coming precariously close to running out of funds.

In its equally important role of financial policeman it has met resistance in the form of social and political upheaval as it imposed economic austerity measures on the countries to which it lends.

If the IMF fails in its efforts in either role, some observers said, the results could be disastrous for the U.S. economy and for the international banking system. But the range of opinion on the IMF's role in the international debt situation is wide, and its need for additional funding this year sparked fierce debate among economists and politicians.

Milton Friedman, an economist at one end of the spectrum of opinion, has written that "the IMF should be abolished, not expanded." Robert Solomon, an economist and guest scholar at the Brookings Institution, described the IMF's purpose as being "to help these [debtor] countries over the present bad patch until world recovery and, one hopes, lower interest rates permit them to get back to normal."

The condition of Brazil alone has kept the IMF, the Bank for International Settlements in Basel, private banks, the Brazilian government and the governments of industrialized countries in a state of nearly constant anxiety. For students of the IMF, Brazil has been the main example this year — as Mexico was last — of the fund's central role in helping to untangle the international debt muddle.

With foreign loans of more than \$90 billion, Brazil is the world's largest and, perhaps, most troubled debtor. In February, its government agreed with the IMF to cut capital spending of state companies, cut subsidies for certain commodities and disengage the link between wages and prices in return for additional loans of more than \$4 billion.

However, the fund refused to advance Brazil the second part of the loan after the country was unable to live up to the economic austerity measures. The bills kept coming due, and by mid-July Brazil found itself unable to repay a \$400-million short-term credit. So it returned once again to the IMF.

In September, the IMF forged an agreement with Brazil and industrialized governments and private banks under which Brazil would receive an \$11-billion package of loans to take it through the end of 1984.

And just on Nov. 22 the IMF executive board voted to resume lending to Brazil. While it could still be the prime contender for spoiler in the international debt crisis, Brazil is not alone in its troubles.

The developing countries alone are in debt to the extent of more than \$700 billion, with Brazil, Mexico and Argentina representing more than \$200 billion of that debt. Of the 146 member countries of the IMF, 45 are being given IMF support. And at the beginning of 1983, 14 of those countries were rescheduling their debts, which usually involves spreading over a number of years the payments that were due in one year.

In the midst of all this need, the fund committed more resources than it had available, leaving it with a shortfall that was expected to be about 6 billion special drawing rights by the end of the year and causing it to request that member countries increase their quotas. (The unit of account of the fund, the SDR, is based on a basket of five currencies: the U.S. dollar, the Deutsche mark, the French franc, the yen and the pound sterling. As of Nov. 21, the SDR was equal to about \$1.048.)

The IMF, as one international economist bluntly put it, is in "a pretty sticky situation." Nor, he said, would it dig itself out overnight. The present wave of troubles is relatively young in terms of the IMF's existence since 1944, when its articles of agreement, along with those of the World Bank, were formulated in Bretton Woods, New Hampshire. Its resources, according to the charter, were to be derived from members' subscriptions and allotted to members according to their quotas in the fund.

Economists trace the problems straining the IMF's resources to the first oil shock in 1973. After the oil shock, the current-account deficits of countries not producing oil rose sharply, reaching a combined peak of \$100 billion in 1981. Commercial banks at that time made low-cost loans to developing countries, loans drawn from the banks' large pool of surplus funds coming in from oil-exporting countries.

After 1979, tighter monetary policies in some of the major industrial countries meant higher interest rates, causing debtor countries to pay interest followed by massive increases in interest payments. This situation was followed by disinflation in industrial countries, which meant less demand for the exports of developing countries and increasing balance-of-payments deficits.

There are those who say the series of debt-causing problems are over. U.S. Treasury Secretary Donald T. Regan said at the annual meeting of the IMF and the World Bank in September that the "global recession is over" and that the world recovery eventually would solve the international debt problem. Yet, even if Mr. Regan is correct on the eventuality — and many economists say he is not — the IMF still must come up with the funds to meet the needs of its member nations in the short term and impose conditionality on its member borrowers. And both of those tasks are hampered by present economic and political concerns.

President Ronald Reagan, in a speech to the IMF delegates in September, called the IMF the "linchpin of the international financial system" and urged the U.S. Congress to pass legislation appropriating \$8.4 billion for the fund, a one-time increase that is the U.S. part of a \$33-billion addition to IMF quotas and an \$18.5-billion increase in the fund's General Agreement to Borrow.

But as the IMF's Nov. 30 deadline for ratification of the quota increases by member nations approached, political delays in the U.S. contribution meant that the IMF was running out of money and the U.S. Congress out of time.

Despite Mr. Reagan's strong endorsement of the legislation, it had stumbled over two instances of partisan politics. The first issue was the request by House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill Jr., Democrat of Massachusetts, for a letter from President Reagan to Democrats who supported the legislation. The request came after a Republican group accused the Democrats of voting for aid to communist coun-

(Continued on Page 9)

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EUROMARKETS

World Organizations Study Insurance Programs

PARIS — One sure way to turn the Third World's debt crisis into a financial catastrophe for the world is to push the major debtor states into repudiating their loans. That would bankrupt the major banks of North America, Western Europe and Japan, which would be left holding worthless paper far exceeding their own capital.

At present, the incentive for debtors to walk away from their obligations is increasing. One set of figures tells the story. Last year, net new borrowing by the nonoil developing countries totaled \$57.4 billion. But interest payments totaled \$59.2 billion.

In previous years, the situation was reversed. In 1981, for example, new borrowing totaled \$81 billion against interest payments of \$55 billion.

William R. Cline, an economist and senior fellow at the Washington-based Institute for International Economics, calls this "an underlying structural vulnerability in international lending."

"If a judgment is made solely on the basis of simple comparison of the interest burden against net new loans received, the developing countries have little incentive to continue honoring debt-servicing obligations," he said. "In short, 'if they defaulted, their losses in net new loans forgone would approximately equal their gains in interest relief.'"

To be sure, there would be other costs as well — the risk of being isolated economically from the rest of the world. But the point he makes illustrates why the scarcity of loans is such a critical issue.

It is perhaps worth mentioning that development historically is financed with foreign capital, as amply demonstrated by the financial history of the United States. What distinguishes the current situation is the overwhelming reliance on loans to finance development rather than foreign investment, which by its nature is risk capital.

In any event, putting aside questions about whether governments ever repay debt or just continually roll it over, it is

clear that seeking repayment in the midst of a recession is not feasible.

But bank lending is contracting and the trickle of cash flowing to the most hard-pressed countries is due to the arm twisting of the International Monetary Fund, which has tied the availability of its own credits to continuing support from the banks.

Thus, the international organizations — with the World Bank in the lead — are exploring ways to increase the flow of funds.

One question under study is whether flows could be substantially augmented if better insurance were available.

National plans already exist in virtually all industrialized countries to insure investments and next month the board of the World Bank is expected to decide whether a new multilateral plan could improve the investment climate and generate greater flows.

Given the preponderance of bank loans in financial flows to developing countries, the World Bank plan, if approved, would have to include loans. Up to now, the national programs have insured only direct investments against expropriation and war, but that coverage is both limited and expensive.

The main risk today is so-called transfer risk, or the inability of sovereign governments to meet the foreign currency requirements to service their debt.

Abraham F.J. Shihata, vice president and general counsel of the World Bank, stresses that many basic questions — such as whether to include medium- and long-term loans in any new plan — remain. Among the others are how such a multilateral plan would be funded and whether it would need to be an independent agency or part of the World Bank.

Mr. Shihata rejected suggestions that such widened insurance coverage might incite recipient countries to be less cautious and that it might, in effect, reward countries mistreating foreign investors or lenders.

"If that were a good argument, there would be no insurance in the world," he said in a telephone interview.

Assuming the board approves the insurance concept, another major question is how such a plan would be funded. Mr. Shihata said it could be financed by the country of the investors, the investors themselves, the host countries or a combination.

Meanwhile, Henry Wallich, a governor of the Federal Reserve Board, believes that banks themselves should consider setting up an insurance pool. Given the high margins of 2 percent or more over Libor that banks are charging to reschedule loans and the criticism this is stirring, Mr. Wallich thinks banks would be well advised to use part or all of this margin as payment into an insurance pool.

He suggests that banks making "constructive" use of the margin might be able to protect themselves against pressures from borrowers to lower the lending terms.

His suggestion, at a recent meeting of the Group of 30, is that all new loans be put into a pool.

No individual loan would be insured, only limited losses of the pool.

If half the 2-percent premium were set aside as insurance premium, the plan might offer 1 percent insurance coverage the first year, 2 percent the second year and growing each year.

The object would be to insure about 75 percent of loan pool, with the other 25 percent exposure borne only by the banks as an incentive for them to remain prudent.

While he thinks such a plan is a "sensible idea," he acknowledges there are many technical obstacles to overcome such as who would administer such a pool.

Even more basic, there would have to be agreement of all participants about when a sovereign loan is a loss. Is it when debt service payments are halted?

Or only when a loan has been repudiated?

— CARL GEWIRTZ

True Gravity of World Debt Crisis

(Continued From Preceding Page)

tries objecting to the implied loss of control over the agency once it can fund itself independently.

The Bundesbank, in its September monthly report, said: "The cooperative nature of the IMF could suffer lasting damage and the precarious balance of rights and duties among its members be seriously upset if the fund were no longer dependent for its refinancing on countries in strong reserve and balance-of-payments positions."

Some experts, such as Alexandre Swoboda, director of the Geneva-based International Center for Monetary and Banking Studies, said there is no chance of resolving the financial crisis of the developing countries as long as banks pretend they will incur no losses as a result of their overlending.

Mr. Swoboda believes much of the investments made with the borrowed funds "have gone sour, or the collateral is not worth what people thought it would be worth — partly because of the higher level of real interest rates, partly because of the fall in the terms of trade of the developing countries, partly because of the recession, partly because of mismanagement in a number of the developing countries and partly because some people have just made off with the money [capital flight]."

Mr. Swoboda said that when this happens to domestic loans to corporate clients, the borrower goes bankrupt, or sells off assets and slims down, or agrees with its lenders to share the costs to restructure the debt (sometimes with the government stepping in, as in the case of Chrysler).

But in the current international context, the entire cost of the defaulted asset is being borne by developing countries. He does not argue that they

should not have to pay it — after all, they did borrow it. But he does insist they cannot afford to and at some point banks will have to admit this.

Rescheduling at rates that value the assets as unchanged cannot go on forever," he said.

The problem, he said, is deciding how to apportion the losses "without giving distorted incentives to banks to lend too much and without creating the sort of panic where [bank] lending evaporates."

Both Mr. Swoboda and Mr. Krul also argue that the banks' existing portfolio of Third World debt needs to be made liquid — much like other assets banks hold.

Banks may hold enormous positions in domestic bonds, for example, which could drop sharply in value if interest rates rise. In that case, banks do not pull out of the bond market waiting for a recovery in prices but write down their losses and upgrade their portfolio by moving into the new, higher yielding issues.

Mr. Krul said: "The main systemic problem facing the international financial markets stems ... from the excessive substitution of classic security borrowing by bank credits — a form of financing deprived of a self-stabilizing secondary market. ..."

"A special international Lombard or discounting mechanism, to be reverted to in times of stress ... could be conceived so as to discount bank debt and other public or private liabilities of developing countries at market-related terms against the issuance of certificates [by the World Bank or the IMF], which, in turn, would be discountable at central banks. ..."

The mere existence of such a facility, he said, "might encourage increased private credit flows and longer maturities."

Need for IMF Funding Brings Fierce Debate

(Continued From Page 7)

tries. The Democrats had voted against an amendment to the IMF bill that would have stopped IMF funds from going to communist countries.

After Mr. Reagan yielded to the pressure and expressed his appreciation in a letter to the Democrats, a second issue held up the bill. Representative Fernand St. Germain, Democrat of Rhode Island and chairman of the House Banking Committee, refused to move the House version of the bill along until the administration withdrew its opposition to a housing bill that he supported.

The final compromise bill, approved by Congress only hours before it adjourned, included requirements that U.S. banks set aside special loan loss reserves when foreign borrowers fall behind on payments and that banking regulators monitor those loans more closely.

(Because of the delays in Congress, administration sources and economists expected that other IMF member countries hung back from agreeing to their quota increases, waiting to be assured of the U.S. contribution.)

The congressional deadlock also gave opponents of increased IMF funding time to repeat their arguments that it was a bailout for banks that had made ill-advised loans to developing countries and that the one-time addition to the fund did not guarantee that the debt problem would not recur.

No one denies that banks could take a beating should any of the debtor countries decide to delay or default on their debt payments. While the IMF made record amounts available for borrowing this year, it was still only 20 percent of the current-account deficits of developing countries, leaving them to rely on private banks for a large percentage of their other borrowing needs.

If Brazil declared a moratorium, meaning a specified time for which it would not make debt payments, one-half of the reported profits of the nine largest U.S. banks would be eliminated, according to William R. Cline, senior fellow at the Institute for International Economics in Washington. That would precipitate runs on the banks, he said. "I suspect the Fed would step in," he said. "It would not, in most cases, exhaust profits and eat into capital, but it would be a severe blow to the economy."

While, in Mr. Cline's opinion,

there is considerably less than a 50-percent chance that Brazil will declare a moratorium on its debt, economists differ widely on the question. Some say a moratorium is "inevitable," while others rate it "highly unlikely."

With its agreement to resume lending to Brazil, the IMF signaled its approval of the country's plan to lower inflation, cut its deficit and increase exports. The austerity program the fund demands as a condition for its loans makes it unique among international financial institutions.

Brazil has had trouble living up to the IMF's conditions in the past. When Brazilian workers held strikes in São Paulo earlier in the year protesting unemployment and the devaluation of wages, Brazil began stalling on the IMF's conditions. Only after several attempts to pass legislation to devalue wages, including one during which President João Baptista Figueiredo declared a limited state of emergency to "avoid tumult during the congressional vote," was the Brazilian Congress successful in passing a compromise measure.

Harry Taylor, president of Manufacturers Hanover Trust, said at a press conference that refinancing for both Brazil and Argentina should be completed by the end of the year, since the passage of the Brazilian wage law and the elections in Argentina removed hindrances to the process.

In spite of the banker's optimism, economic analysts are quick to remind that the emergency loan package will only tide that country over for a year. And some say that the economic austerity measures required of Brazil for the loan will only serve to push Brazil deeper into debt.

The consequences of the fund's so-called "conditionality," opponents said, are counterproductive because restraints on imports mean that the country cannot get vital parts needed for goods it exports, therefore slowing economic growth.

At a September press conference in Washington, Jacques de Larosière, managing director of the IMF, firmly stated the fund's position on conditionality: "A country that is in balance-of-payments difficulty, and that can no longer find outside credit, has no choice but to reduce its domestic consumption and its imports. It has no other choice."

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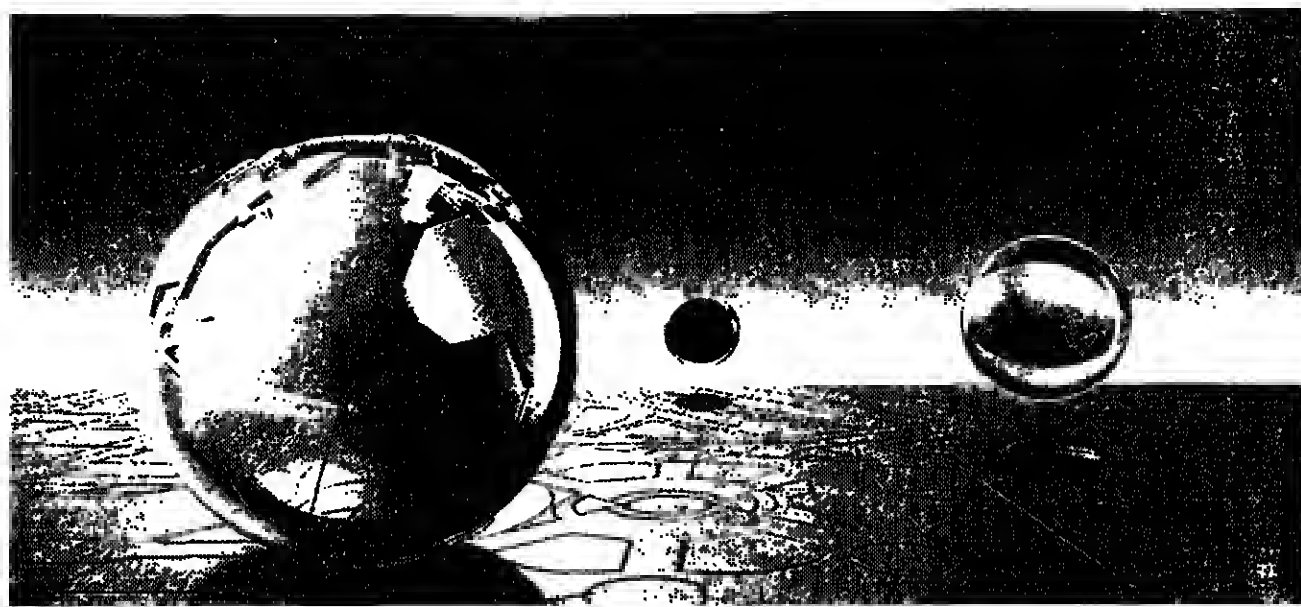
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EUROMARKETS

Intransigence Over Budget Policy in U.S. Raises Fears That Economic Expansion Will Be Shortlived

By Randall E. Moore

WASHINGTON — While the United States, and to a lesser extent its major European trading partners, are experiencing economic recoveries, hopes for an immediate change in U.S. fiscal policy to reduce projected budget deficits exceeding \$200 billion have all but disappeared. As a result, there are increasing fears that economic expansion, both in the United States and Europe, may not be sustained.

President Ronald Reagan's chief economic adviser, Martin Feldstein, has warned that unless Congress acts soon to reduce these deficits, it runs the risk of plunging the U.S. economy back into recession. European leaders, painfully aware of the effects of these deficits on their economies, have urged U.S. action.

However, there is little evidence that America's politicians are willing to risk the wrath of voters prior to next year's elections by raising taxes or cutting spending to bring the deficits down.

A recent attempt by Senator Robert J. Dole, Republican of Kansas and chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, to push a package containing a combination of tax hikes and spending cuts totaling about \$150 billion over three years drew little congressional support and the threat of a presidential veto.

Internal bickering within the Reagan administration over the size and effects of the budget deficit has compounded the problem of those who advocate immediate action. At the heart of the problem are projections by the Congressional Budget Office, private forecasters and the administration's own Council of Economic Advisers that U.S. budget deficits in 1984 through 1988 will exceed \$200 billion each year. Combined with the \$195-billion deficit registered in fiscal 1983, these deficits would result in almost a doubling of the national debt by 1988. Interest payments alone to service such a massive debt would amount to \$30 billion, CEA economists estimate.

The prospects for record-setting deficits have not been completely lost on Congress. The recent battle over a congressional increase in the current national debt ceiling of \$1,389 trillion, which left credit markets nervous and the government near technical bankruptcy, reflected the anguish of those who advocate some kind of action to reduce the deficits. However, it should be noted that many of the same legislators who refused to support the increase are the first to fight an increase in taxes or cuts in spending designed to reduce the deficits. Therein lies the dilemma. Either action is considered political suicide in an election year, 1984 being no exception.

Politics aside, however, the negative ramifications of these deficits are both domestic and international. A substantial portion of the current U.S. recovery is due to large increases in consumer spending. Encouraged by lower interest rates and declines in unemployment,

consumers who had delayed purchases of major durable goods such as automobiles went on a buying spree this spring. Personal consumption expenditures during the second quarter of 1983 rose at a robust annual rate of 15.1 percent as a result. Auto sales alone jumped from an annual rate of 7.8 million units in the third quarter of 1982 to 9.3 million during the corresponding 1983 period. The housing industry also experienced a boom, with new housing starts at an annualized rate of 1.79 million units during the third quarter, the lowest since the days of the Korean War. It was only marginally higher during the third quarter.

While economic growth appears to be slowing somewhat in the early days of the fourth quarter, it remains strong enough in the minds of most economists to carry expansion into at least the first few quarters of 1984. However, beyond that point, analysts worry that the large budget deficits will begin to play an increasingly detrimental role.

To sustain the economic expansion, slowing personal consumption must be supplemented by increased capital spending by industry, analysts said. Persistently large budget deficits may prevent this, economists noted.

Mr. Feldstein, among others, said that unless the deficits are reduced, and soon, a clash between the borrowing needs of business and government will result. The effects: a crowding out of available funds for business and higher real interest rates. Businesses will not only have to scramble to find funds for new plant and equipment expenditures, but also will invest only where the expected returns profitably exceed the high cost of needed funds.

The primary economic effect of persistent budget deficits is to absorb savings, reducing the long-term growth rate of capital formation and, therefore, the rate of real economic growth," Mr. Feldstein told the Joint Economic Committee in Congress.

The near-term deficits [those in 1983 and 1984] probably have a positive impact on the pace of recovery," by spurring demand for goods and services, he said.

However, the prospect of massive deficits in future years "weakens the pace of the recovery now" by raising real interest rates, according to Mr. Feldstein. Those current high rates have had at least two negative repercussions on the current recovery.

First, high real interest rates have played a major role in propelling the U.S. dollar to historically high levels. The dollar appreciated more than 40 percent in real terms from the fourth quarter of 1980 to September of 1983 against a weighted average of the currencies of other major industrial countries. Henry Wallich, a member of the Federal Reserve Board, said in a recent speech, that as a result, U.S. firms have found it increasingly difficult to sell their goods abroad. A strong dollar also has made imported goods less expensive, relative to their U.S. counterparts. Combined, the consequence is a U.S. merchandise trade deficit that

is expected to total a record \$75 billion in 1983, climbing to \$100 billion in 1984. Emblematic of this problem, America's national trade surplus with the European Community disappeared during the first nine months of 1983, becoming a deficit.

In addition, high U.S. interest rates have attracted funds from Europe and elsewhere, limiting the amount of available funds needed for capital spending to fuel a sustained international economic expansion. To curtail this outflow of funds, other Western countries complain that they have been forced to keep their own interest rates high, a further drag on their struggling economies.

Secondly, the current high level of interest rates "is no doubt also causing the demand for housing, for some consumer durables, and for some plant and equipment to be lower now than it otherwise would be," according to Mr. Feldstein.

Despite Mr. Feldstein's protestations, key players within the Reagan administration remain unconvinced of his argument. Most notable among them is Treasury Secretary Donald Regan. Unlike Mr. Feldstein, Mr. Regan believes that the deficits are not a key factor in keeping interest rates high and that, in any case, the deficit is primarily "cyclical" in nature and will shrink as the recovery continues. Recently, Mr. Regan was quoted as saying that the recovery would reduce the deficit to between \$100 billion to \$125 billion in 1985.

To further reduce deficits, Mr. Regan advocated additional large cuts in federal outlays, primarily in social programs, and a "contingency tax" increase that would take effect in 1985 if deficits still exceeded some fixed proportion of gross national product. Such a "contingency tax" was proposed by the Reagan administration in its January budget proposal but won little support on Capitol Hill, the seat of the U.S. Congress, and is not being aggressively pushed by the administration now.

While Mr. Feldstein agrees with Mr. Regan that part of the deficit is cyclical — the portion caused by remnants of the recession — another equally large part is structural in nature, Mr. Feldstein said. This structural deficit is represented by the difference between federal revenues and outlays when the last of the recession's effects are past and the economy has returned to full employment. Based on CEA estimates, future federal spending will grow faster than the future rise in tax revenues, leaving deficits in the \$200-billion range even at full employment.

This split in opinion between Mr. Feldstein and Mr. Regan became so acute at one time that the White House instituted a review process under which both men were forced to submit their speeches to administration officials.

In fact, Mr. Feldstein's intransigence on the need for tax increases has led to speculation that White House insiders would not be unhappy if he chose to leave the administration.

Any hope that Mr. Feldstein's arguments might at last gain favor

at the White House seemed crushed by the news that the U.S. unemployment rate in October fell a full 0.5 percent to 8.7 percent, its lowest level in 20 months. Administration officials were quick to claim credit for this decline from the recession peak of 10.8 percent in January.

Democrats, their political aspirations stung by the strength of the recovery, have attacked the president on budget deficits. Citing Mr. Regan's campaign promises of a balanced budget in 1984, Democrats have launched an offensive against the president, calling him the "biggest budget buster" of all time. However, they have been unable to produce budget proposals that satisfy those in their own ranks, much less enough Republicans, to win passage. In general, the Democrats have advocated cuts in defense expenditures to reduce federal outlays and increased personal taxes and the closing of tax loopholes to increase federal revenues.

This lack of agreement, both within and between parties, combined with the impending elections, has produced a stalemate that most analysts believe will remain until the November 1984 elections. Even then, congressional action on budget deficits probably will have to wait until the spring of 1985 to take into account the election results.

Thus, with no expected help from Congress or the administration, experts warn that the Federal Reserve will once again be stuck with the delicate task of keeping the recovery alive. In general, economists have been surprised by the strength of the recovery in the face of historically high real interest rates.

However, to keep expansion alive, many said that the Fed may be tempted to allow a more rapid expansion of the money supply to help finance the deficit and bring interest rates down.

Ironically, fear on the part of financial markets that the Fed will buckle under to political pressure and "monetize" the debt in this fashion is helping to keep real interest rates high.

Paul A. Volcker, the chairman of the Federal Reserve Board, repeatedly has stated that monetary expansion to help finance large budget deficits is "basically unwarranted." However, financial markets remain uncertain of the Fed's intentions.

Currently, money supply growth remains within the Fed's target ranges. So, too, is inflation. How long this will last is subject to debate.

Rapid deregulation of the U.S. financial community has made it more difficult for the Fed to gauge monetary growth. In addition, few expect inflation to remain at its current low levels. As a result, the Fed's task is made even more difficult.

The only certainty, if any exists in the face of these problems, was probably best summed up by Mr. Feldstein's recent remarks before a congressional panel on the need for action on budget deficits. "Every year gets riskier and riskier," he said.

U.S. Banking Deregulation: Answer to Enduring Crisis?

By Craig Stock

PHILADELPHIA — Not since the Great Depression in the 1930s has the banking industry in the United States seen the turmoil it experienced in 1983.

Bank failures occurred at the fastest pace since the 1930s. The U.S. comptroller of the currency, C. Todd Conover, predicts that the number of bank failures would reach 50 by the end of this year. Among the 43 banks that had failed through October was the First National Bank of Midland (Texas), which with assets of \$1.2 billion, was the second largest bank ever to collapse in the United States.

A record number of other banks — more than 600 — were financially weak enough to make the regulators' "problem bank" list, indicating that regulators think the banks could fail without quick corrective action.

An international debt crisis shook confidence in the nation's largest banks, which, because of the frantic action of the IMF, were able to avoid the devastating step of classifying billions of dollars in overseas loans as delinquent. By lending more money to nations that could not repay old loans, the banks were able to collect loan fees and show income instead of loan losses.

But the development during the year with the most lasting effect on the industry was the continued assault on the laws and regulations that have governed banking in the United States for the last half century. U.S. banks operate under what are among the tightest restrictions in all the major industrialized nations. Leading the assault on those restrictions have been the bankers themselves, particularly large "money center" banks that are clamoring for a full-scale, sweeping deregulation of banking.

Bankers have been pushing the U.S. Congress to remove legal barriers that have kept banks and other types of businesses strictly separate for the last 50 years and that

have restricted locations where banks could do business.

Despite rapid advances in technology that allow banking transactions to be done electronically anywhere on the globe in seconds, most U.S. banks are not allowed to take deposits from customers in neighboring states. The banks said they must expand their opportunities to meet the competitive challenge of nonbanking financial services companies — insurance companies and brokerage houses especially — that have been moving onto the banks' turf.

"This has aroused an industry that not so many years back was rather content to play a traditional role," said Fritz Elmendorf, an official of the American Bankers Association, which represents the nation's commercial banks. "It's been only recently that banks have become this aggressive in testing frontiers. To some real extent it was prompted by the aggressiveness of the nonbanks."

Among the banking rules that have come under attack — either directly by changes in the laws or indirectly by legal maneuvers — were:

- Restrictions on the interest rates banks could pay on deposits.
- Laws limiting a bank to deposit-taking in only one of the 50 states.

- Laws aimed at keeping banking companies out of the underwriting of stocks and bonds or of insurance.

- Bans on the ownership of banks by nonbanking companies.

In one important area, deregulation became nearly complete during the year. Federal restrictions on the interest rates banks could pay on most deposits were abolished.

For many years, bankers were happy with the low limits on interest that could be paid to savers. But after investors, spurred by higher inflation and interest rates in the 1970s, began withdrawing billions of dollars from banks and putting it into money market mutual funds

and other investments, banks began to clamor for the ability to pay higher, competitive rates.

In part, the chaotic state of banking regulation and deregulation is the result of the very structure of the nation's banking system. That system is a sprawling and diverse mixture of commercial banks, which traditionally have been the financiers of business and industry, and savings, or thrift, institutions, which traditionally have taken in the savings of individual Americans and loaned them out in the form of mortgages.

Until recently, savings institutions were prohibited from making commercial loans or from offering short-term loans to individuals.

There are about 14,000 commercial banks in the United States and about 4,230 savings and loans associations and savings banks. These institutions are governed by a dual system of laws enacted by both the federal government and each of the 50 states.

The dual system is split even further on the federal level, where the responsibility of overseeing banking companies is shared among different agencies. The Federal Reserve Board regulates commercial bank holding companies; the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. regulates commercial banks and savings banks; the Federal Home Loan Bank Board is in charge of federally chartered savings and loan associations, most of which are small institutions that are largely in the business of financing housing for individuals.

Each regulator takes a different approach to its job and to deregulation. The result is that some banks have "shopped" for the most lenient regulator, playing one agency off against another to get the most advantageous rulings.

Banks with charters from the federal government have switched their charters to states in order to be under the oversight of the FDIC rather than the Federal Reserve Board, which generally has been



Paul A. Volcker

the most cautious of the regulators toward deregulation.

Indeed, the nation's biggest banks would like the Fed to step aside altogether and relinquish its role as a bank supervisor to less conservative regulators such as the comptroller and the FDIC. The Fed chairman, Paul A. Volcker, thus far has rejected such suggestions.

The divisiveness among the regulators is magnified in Congress, where lawmakers get differing opinions on deregulation from big banks, small banks, savings and loans associations, brokerage houses and mutual funds and consumer groups. This discordant chorus of advice and opinions means that little is likely to be done soon to settle the matter of banking deregulation, said Senator John Heinz, Republican of Pittsburgh and a key member of the Banking Committee, which will have to approve any new banking legislation in the U.S. Senate.

"No significant revisions will be enacted without broad consensus as to what should be done," Mr. Heinz said in a recent interview. Mr. Elmendorf said that deregulation is a tough issue for Congress because "it deals with rather arcane financial issues that the public doesn't really care about or hasn't expressed an interest in." "By its very nature it creates difficult choices for politicians that they'd rather not have to deal with," he said.

Uncertainty about what sort of financial deregulation, if any, will happen makes planning difficult, according to executives of financial companies.

Kidder, P

EUROMARKETS

Oil Revenue Drop May Leave Scars on Gulf Banking System

By Benj. Khundana

GENEVA — The drying of surplus funds because of falling oil revenue and economic recession have put a temporary brake on the banking and investment boom in the Arab Gulf states.

Consequently, future prospects, although still healthy, no longer offer the excitement of past years. Most domestic Arab banks and investment companies are less than a decade old and many of the international banks moved in after 1975. The spectacular growth of Bahrain's offshore banking facilities, which remain the most vigorous banking presence in the area, also happened after 1977. But growth prospects have already slowed down.

While much of the blame lies with economic troubles, some must be laid on bottlenecks in local investment programs and lack of skilled financial management.

The Arabs brought the best Western financial and investment advice available, but only time could change the conservative mentalities of the investors themselves. The changes are only just becoming visible as investors enter higher risk venture capital placements.

But a large body of investors, perhaps most of them, are inflexible in their Muslim beliefs and would rather forego interest incomes than compromise their religious beliefs.

The full impact of this body of savers and investors has not yet been felt because enough public money and cash from rich individuals was available to keep existing banks busy.

But falling oil wealth and sharp budget cutbacks by governments are bringing a wave of change that will leave lasting scars on the banking system even if oil earnings rise again soon.

According to the laws laid down by Mohammed, no good Muslim is allowed to accept interest income on his money. As applied today this has a good side as well as a less desirable one.

The good side is that a new style of banking has emerged, loosely called Islamic banking, where depositors give money on trust to the bank that invests it in profit-sharing projects rather than interest-bearing instruments. Depositors do not expect fixed rates of return and do not complain even if there is no return.

Yet Islamic banks — although still only a handful — have been surprisingly successful. Some claim to have returned at least 20 percent annually on deposits. They now have strong growth plans in countries with large Islamic populations after less than five years of activity on average.

Perhaps the best-known example of such a bank is the Geneva-based Dar al-Maal al-Islami (DMI) whose chairman is Prince Mohammed al-Faisal, second son of the late King Faisal of Saudi Arabia. Its equity participation certificates, which opened at \$105 in late 1981, are now being traded at around \$140 in Gulf markets.

Although its main business is in Saudi Arabia, it is quickly expanding through representative offices in other Gulf states and Islamic countries in Asia. It also expects to open offices in the United States and become a licensed deposit taker in Britain.

It has an authorized capital of \$1 billion, which is being offered in tranches.

The fastest growing Islamic bank appears to be the Kuwait Finance House created by three government ministries and the public in 1977. Its assets burgeoned

by nearly one-half during the last 14 months and now stand at nearly \$3 billion.

Bankers say finding depositors, even rich ones, in the devout Islamic countries is no problem. "They seek us out when they learn that they can be sure that their money will be invested strictly according to Islamic laws," said an executive who has advised three such banks. "But the problem is finding Islamic ways of investing such large sums of money," he added.

The problem arises because most Islamic countries are poor and have badly organized stock markets, or none at all. Lending borrowers is easy, but helping them to make profits that could provide the lenders with an income is difficult because of the backwardness of the economies in which they function.

At the same time, local commercial banks do not look kindly on such "Islamic banking." The less laudable aspect of the concept is that it goes so much against the grain of non-Islamic bankers as to make cooperation difficult.

Even the Saudi Arabian Monetary Authority (SAMA), which controls about \$30 billion of its country's reserves, is reported to be wary of Islamic banking.

The Ministry of Finance allowed the Al Rajhi Company for Currency Exchange & Commerce to become the country's first Islamic bank in June 1983 after several years of soul-searching, reportedly to avoid later public criticism of the SAMA, which invests its funds in exchange for interest income.

The Al Rajhi bank, when it becomes operational in 1984, is likely to become the banker of the masses while other non-Islamic commercial banks handle the modern economy.

Commercial banks in all Gulf states face leaner pickings than in the past. Consequently, a race is quickly developing for rich clients and banks are improving their portfolio management and customer relation services.

Most banks expended rapidly in the late 1970s as every state heavily emphasized public spending. Governments spent not only on welfare but on bolstering private enterprise and creating the basic infrastructures needed to bring Arab economies into the last quarter of the 20th century after a long isolation and decay.

But every state has now sharply pruned budgets. Even Saudi Arabia is being forced to draw down at least \$10 billion from its reserves to make both ends meet and the Finance Ministry has instructed all departments to spend only 75 percent of their allocations this year.

Most bankers detect a trend toward medium and longer term investment by Arab customers in contrast with recent years, when they sought mainly high interest fiduciary deposits and floating rate notes.

Arab banks also seem less eager to enter lending consortia because they feel they have gained enough reputation to strike out a little more on their own.

For their part, the offshore foreign banks in Bahrain face a plateau in business mainly because of cuts in spending by the Saudi and other governments. The Saudis have also recently taken new measures to encourage participation by domestic banks in royal offerings limiting the role of foreign banks, in some cases offshore banks have raised only the foreign currency portions of multicurrency requirements.

Some aggression has also been caused by more vigorous collection by the Saudis of withholding tax on foreign bank earnings.

Panama Banking Collapse Causes Concern Over Supervision

By David Vidal

WASHINGTON — The recent collapse of a private Venezuelan bank in Panama's offshore banking center has sustained concern among U.S. federal banking regulators that banking supervision there is inadequate.

In a reflection of this concern, the comptroller of the currency has denied a license to a South American bank chartered in Panama that sought to begin operations in the United States. This is a result of the inability of U.S. and Panamanian regulators to reach agreement on how supervisors to the United States might examine banks in Panama without violating Panamanian secrecy or other laws.

While no specific U.S. action has grown out of the failure of Banco de Ultramar, U.S. officials and experts concerned with international banking and offshore activities in particular, express a subdued caution on the subject of Panama.

"It's a nervous tread right now," said a private banking expert with clients in Panama.

At the Federal Reserve Bank, a knowledgeable official said Panama was not on "any sort of emergency list or anything." But, he added, "they have a National Banking Commission down there whose supervision is not very good or adequate, and that is something neither we nor supervisors are happy about."

An official who deals in international matters for the comptroller of the currency said: "If we perceived there was inadequate supervision, we would decline permission

for a bank to operate in the United States, and we have done that recently."

Sources in the U.S. Congress connected to the Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs Committee said that there was no particular action being contemplated.

Officials of the Fed, as the U.S. Federal Reserve Bank is called, and the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency said, however, that they continue to "proselytize" Panamanian authorities about the problems that banking under "flags of convenience" can cause. Both agencies share responsibility for supervision of U.S. international banking.

Federal bank authorities traditionally supervise U.S. banks on a consolidated basis, so that all branches, subsidiaries and affiliates are reviewed. Similarly, agencies or branches of foreign banks in the United States must be chartered and supervised either by the state banking authority or the comptroller. Foreign banks operate in the United States within the same regulatory and supervisory framework as U.S. banks.

While "remote" examinations of a bank's books are carried out, regulatory authorities prefer to conduct on-site examinations, and this currently is done with a number of offshore centers. Annually, more than 100 U.S. bank examiners travel to more than 20 countries to conduct "prudential" examinations of U.S. banks' offshore activities.

But Panama is not included.

"We used to go down five or six years ago, before their desire to go more secret," one regulator said. "We had

agreed to joint examinations, but they then realized that they lacked authority to do them and they figured, we shouldn't be in there if we couldn't be."

About one-third of Panama's offshore banks are of South American origin and more than half the overall total come from North and South America. Total assets of the banking center in Panama rose to \$49 billion in December 1982, up from \$46.3 billion a year earlier, according to the U.S. State Department. The number of banking licenses issued rose to 130 in early 1983, and seven banks began operations during 1982. Eight more have received licenses but have not yet begun operations.

Offshore banking operations are exempt from Panamanian income tax, and transactions conducted from an office in Panama, but consummated or having an effect abroad, also are nontaxable.

The laws to create an international banking center were passed in 1970. Before it was in effect, 241 "banks" operated out of Panama, but after its approval 20 were left, Panamanian authorities said.

The National Banking Commission was created as a quasi-independent agency under the Planning Ministry and as the cornerstone of the banking supervision system. With three members from the public sector and three from the private banking sector, it supervises banks, issues licenses and promulgates regulations.

The law does not allow "registry" banks — those that function in name only — and forbids any corporation from using the word "bank" in its title without a banking license.

3 Kuwait Giants Return to European Investment

By Timothy McGirk and Eva Dadrian

LONDON — Kuwait's three biggest financial powerhouses, though still badly shaken by the *souk al-manaah* stock market crash, are coming back hesitantly to the Euro-markets.

The three — the Kuwait Investment Co. (KIC), the Kuwait Foreign Trading, Contracting and Investment Co. (KFTCIC) and the Kuwait International Investment Co. (KIIC) — are owned by the government together with Kuwait's merchant elite and form the powerful investment arm of the Kuwaiti Ministry of Finance and Planning.

When a Kuwaiti dinar floating rate note (FRN) for 5 million dinars was launched last June, managed by the three, it was seen as the finance ministry's attempt to gauge the damage to Kuwait's financial reputation after the crash in 1982. The government still is deciding how to cover more than \$30 billion in bad debts.

The differences between the investment companies are slight. All are run as Western investment banks, although KFTCIC handles more trade and domestic contracting than do the other two. KIC gears its investment more toward the domestic market and real estate, and KIIC is oriented toward pure foreign investment.

KIIC was originally set up in 1974 as a private company by leading Kuwaiti businessmen and several commercially minded members of the royal family. Today, the government owns 20 percent of it and 78 percent of KIC, KFTCIC is 90 percent owned by the finance ministry.

Although Kuwait's foreign reserves are smaller than Saudi Arabia's, the al-Sabah royal family has proved adept at diversifying oil income into foreign investment — mostly through the KIC, KFTCIC and the KIIC.

At the time, some bankers believed that the floating rate note issue came too soon after the *souk* crash, and instead of

helping to restore confidence, it would result in a weaker dinar and accelerate the drain of capital.

The FRN issue offered: Interest on the seven-year issue at 14 percent above Kibor — the six-month Kuwaiti interbank offered rate. Managers and underwriters earned a 3 percent commission. Issued by the United Bank of Kuwait in London, it was the first time that the Kuwaiti dinar bond market was open to banks outside Kuwait.

The June issue seemed to be the parting shot of Abdul-Latif Yousef al-Hamad, the finance minister who resigned in August because of differences with the National Assembly over how to deal with the stock market debacles. Mr. al-Hamad, who gained international respect as director-general of the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development, argued that stiff measures were needed. All bankruptcies needed to be publicly declared, according to Mr. al-Hamad. But the National Assembly thought otherwise, believing it was better to write off the debts than drag out the affair.

Some bankers claim that Mr. al-Hamad's decision to test the market with a FRN issue was safer than relying on other financial instruments. The fall in oil prices and the repercussions from the *souk* have weakened Kuwaiti bank rates by 5 percent over the past year. One Gulf investment banker based in London said: "A floating rate note should enable the Kuwaitis to ride out any short-term currency fluctuations."

The combined weight of the KIC, the KFTCIC and the KIIC behind the issue seems to have paid off. Dealers report that the 5 million Kuwaiti dinar issue — the first of any kind on the Kuwaiti dinar market for more than a year — has been successful.

"The Kuwaiti dinar is a strong currency. The time was right to show that to the market," said a U.S. broker in London.

The KFTCIC, of the three units, has pursued the most

aggressive investment policy. Although it cannot match the resources of Arab commercial banks (KFTCIC ranked 143rd in the Euromoney 500, with an equity value of \$426.3 million), it rated among the top five Arab lead managers of syndicated loans for the first six months of 1983. It lead-managed 18 loans from January to June 1, amounting to \$213.7 million. KFTCIC also is an active participant in the bond market. In 1982, it managed 32 bond issues, mainly in Kuwaiti dinars and dollar denominations.

As one of the oldest Arab investment companies — KFTCIC was formed in 1964, long before the oil price boom, it set the foreign investment pattern that other large Arab oil producers were to follow. KFTCIC and the two smaller units picked U.S. government securities as their first choice, followed by stocks and bonds in large U.S. corporations. The pattern still holds: Of the estimated \$78 billion of Arab investment in the United States, around \$44 billion are funneled into government securities, \$16 billion into top-rated U.S.-based multinationals. Another \$11 billion is in commercial bank deposits. The remainder goes into buying real estate and such corporations as Santa Fe International, a petroleum company Kuwait bought for \$2.5 billion.

Kuwait and the other major holders of petrodollars then decided to diversify into Japan, West Germany and Switzerland, keeping the same mix of government and corporate paper in their portfolio. A major shift from the United States occurred after the Carter administration froze Iranian assets.

So far, all Arab oil states, with the exception of Iraq, which is at war with Iran, have decided to scale down domestic development rather than dig too deeply into foreign investment. KFTCIC, KIC and KIIC (which rank 172 and 350 respectively in the Euromoney 500), according to Middle Eastern bankers in London, also have maintained their high lending rate to Arab countries.

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EUROMARKETS

Conservative Policies Drawing Criticism, Praise at World Bank

By John M. Berry

WASHINGTON — The World Bank has a record in these financially troubled times that must leave many international lenders green with envy. It is consistently profitable, it has never had a borrower default, arrearages on loan payments are insignificant, and it has never rescheduled payments on a loan.

The conservative philosophy underlying that record also generates complaints from time to time that the bank — formally the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) — does too little to aid developing nations, given its resources.

For instance, the Overseas Development Council, a U.S. non-profit group headed by a former World Bank president, Robert S. McNamara, urged earlier this year that the bank try both to increase its resources and to use what it has more aggressively.

In introducing the council's annual analysis of aid and other resource flows, Mr. McNamara said: "There is an immediate, urgent need for a more systematic mechanism to cope with the debt crises of developing countries. This must include a lender of last resort and sharply increased resources available to the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the regional development banks."

Specifically, the report suggested speeding up the next general increase in World Bank capital, now scheduled for fiscal 1987. It added, "The IBRD could also increase its lending capacity by altering its gearing ratio — the ratio of exposure outstanding to total capital, including callable and paid-in capital."

"Currently, the IBRD's charter limits its exposure to an extremely conservative 1:1 ratio to total capital. Commercial banks may risk an exposure of 25:1 or more of their capital base," the analysis continued. "As the IBRD has gained in resources, experience and reputation, it can consider a more expansive policy."

"Raising the gearing ratio would permit the IBRD to borrow more heavily to private markets without having to ask donor governments for large budgetary appropriations or fully offsetting callable capital guarantees. ... The expansion of the gearing ratio could be gradual, rising slowly to a still conservative 2:1."

The Independent Commission

on International Development Issues — the Brandt Commission — also recommended doubling the ratio in its 1980 report.

There are two big stumbling blocks to implementing any such proposal, according to officials at the bank.

First, the 1:1 ratio of loan disbursements to paid-in and callable capital is part of the IBRD's Articles of Agreement, and any change would require amending them.

Second, the investors who currently have lent the bank about \$40 billion have done so relying on the virtual total protection of that 1:1 ratio. Even the Overseas Development Council acknowledges that changing the ratio might lead to suits by present bondholders. And World Bank officials fear their borrowing costs, which are virtually the same as those of the federal government for bond issues floated in the United States, would rise.

"Even if changing the gearing ratio were desirable," says a World Bank spokesman, Sheldon Rappaport, "it is doubtful that the major industrial countries would approve it. The various shareholders in the 144 countries owning stock in the IBRD are aware that investors in their countries have bought bonds with that 1:1 gearing ratio in mind."

"Also, the shareholders have paid in only about 7.5 percent of their capital. The rest is a commitment to pay off if needed, and they want to make sure the bank is managed conservatively enough that they will never have to pay in the additional capital," Mr. Rappaport said.

"If we departed from that 1:1 ratio, I suspect the financial markets would frown on that, and we would end up having to borrow at higher rates. Since we are an intermediary — we take on one-half a percent and on-lend the money — that would raise the cost to our borrowers," he added.

"The whole idea is such a remote possibility," Mr. Rappaport said, that "within the Bank, I haven't heard developing countries or industrial countries recommend it."

Meanwhile, the IBRD continues to try to achieve greater leveraging of its resources in other ways, including a process of co-financing with commercial banks and closer ties with export financing agencies in industrial nations.

However, the push for co-financing is not new, and in the current debt crisis many smaller banks that

have been lenders to developing nations in the past are getting out of the business as fast as they can.

In the IBRD's 1983 fiscal year, which ended last June 30, there were 88 projects with co-financing. The projects' total costs were estimated at \$21 billion, with the bank putting up \$3.2 billion and the International Development Association, the bank's affiliated soft-loan arm, another \$1.1 billion.

That \$4.3 billion was augmented by \$5.7 billion worth of co-financing, with \$1.5 billion coming from various official sources such as regional development banks, \$2.9 billion in the form of export credits and another \$1 billion from private entities including commercial banks.

Earlier this year, the bank's executive directors approved a trial program in which the bank, in addition to its own loan, can also participate in the parallel commercial loan. "This participation may take the form of direct financial participation in the later maturities of a loan made by commercial banks, the use of the World Bank guarantee, or a contingent participation by the World Bank in the commercial loan," the co-financing report said.

In some cases, loan disbursements may be speeded up or the amount of World Bank participation increased. In others, crucial foreign exchange may be loaned to help an underutilized export sector maintain its production level, according to World Bank officials.

But none of these changes should be taken as an indication that the bank is about to abandon any of four conservative principles that govern its lending principles above and beyond the 1:1 gearing ratio.

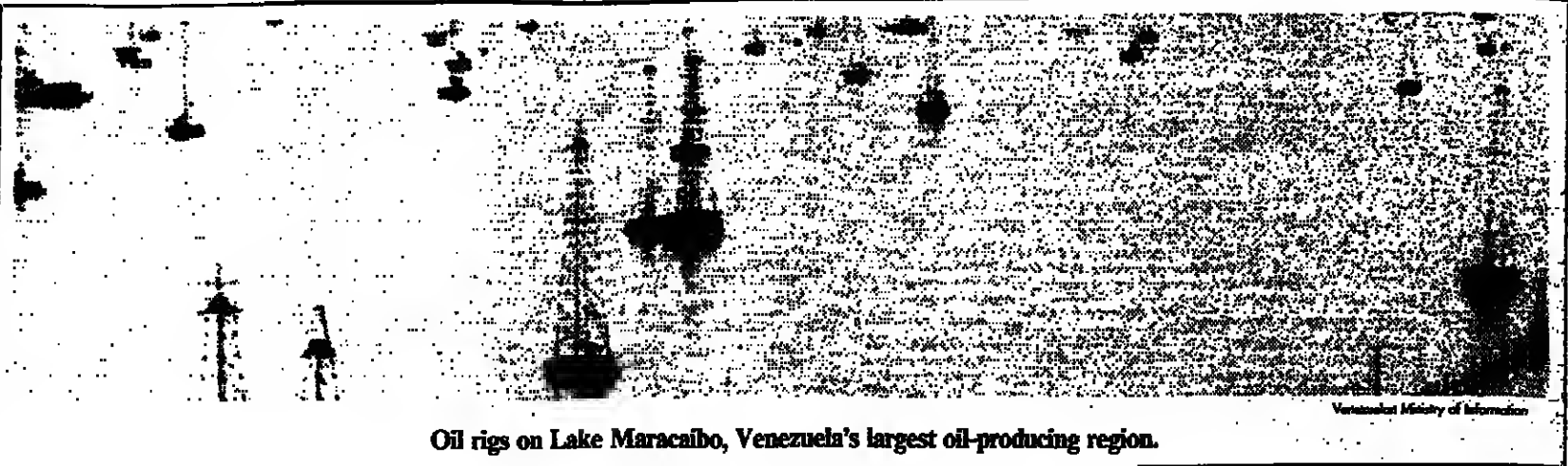
In the latest of its quarterly information statements required by the U.S. government on behalf of American investors, the bank outlines those principles:

- All bank loans are to be or must be guaranteed by the government or the central bank of the country in which the project is located.

- Loans must be for productive purposes and justified on economic grounds.

- Economically, the borrowing country must be likely to be in a position to repay the loan, including having the prospect of sufficient foreign exchange to do so.

- The use of loan proceeds is supervised, with disbursements made only as the project progresses.



Oil rigs on Lake Maracaibo, Venezuela's largest oil-producing region.

Central Bankers Strive to Close Loopholes in Code

BASEL, Switzerland — About 300 yards from the Basel railway station stands an unusual cylindrical building that houses the world's most powerful bank — the Bank for International Settlements (BIS).

The BIS, a tight club of influential central bankers, not only acts as a clearing house for central bank transactions but also as a prestigious think tank guiding Western banking policies.

Since central banks are the main regulatory authorities for commercial banks in every country, the BIS is the nerve center for surveillance of international commercial banking.

Until recently, the BIS was as nondescript and discreet as the city playing host to it. Central bankers met there once a month to clear accounts with one another and discuss the economic outlook to assess the kind of monetary policy best suited to their needs. They made no pronouncements and few people paid much attention to them.

But as recession took hold of Western economies, monetary policies became crucial instruments for controlling inflation and arresting unemployment.

The role of the BIS began to change soon after the 1973 oil price increases that brought surplus cash flooding into Eurodollar markets. The collapse of West Germany's Herstatt bank in 1974 jolted central bankers into more closely monitoring the foreign exposure of domestic banks partly by keeping a wary eye on their foreign lending-to-equity-capital ratios.

A deal among central bankers, called the Basel Concordat, was worked out in 1975 detailing, for the first time, active cooperation among Western central banks to

control imprudent lending by commercial banks. It also clarified the responsibilities of the national central bank in case of a major commercial bank collapse.

The concordat apparently served its purpose well because no major bank closures occurred in Europe for several years in spite of the frenzied activity involved in recycling petrodollars, which substantially redefined the international role of both central and commercial banking.

The era of massive consortia lending arrived in Europe in the mid-1970s at the same time as unprecedented speculative capital movements and volatile exchange rates. Despite the unique strains on the system, apart from occasional closures of small banks, European bankers managed to sail through those turbulent and exciting years.

Then came the Banco Ambrosiano scandal when the Luxembourg holding company, Banco Ambrosiano Holding (BAH), defaulted on nearly \$400 million of syndicated Eurodollar loans. Central bankers suddenly recognized a gaping loophole in the 1975 concordat.

The concordat had laid down no guidelines about which central banks should supervise foreign subsidiaries, holding companies or joint ventures of international bank groups. Should responsibility rest with the central bank of the parent company's country or the affiliate's host country, or should responsibility be shared by the two central banks?

The apportionment of responsibility is vital because only the central bank, to its capacity as lender of the last resort, can decide to launch a rescue operation either singly or in cooperation with others.

The BIS is trying to expand and

convert the concordat into a formal agreement on international banking supervision. However, the planned agreement would be limited and would not significantly restrict each central bank's right to make its own decisions or to choose its own methods of enforcement.

An accord would not involve anything that might be misinterpreted as a pledge of automatic rescue operations. On the contrary, the purpose would be to make it easier for central banks to detect shaky commercial banks early enough to push them off the brink of crisis in time.

By clarifying the areas and extent of central bank responsibility in cross-frontier defaults, the agreement would allow members to force careless banks to shape up while minimizing the international impact of any default.

Systematic handling of challenges to international financial stability that arise from commercial bank misjudgments is particularly important when hundreds of banks from many countries act together often to make syndicated loans to international companies and governments.

The collapse of one large syndicate member can bring many of the others down even when the borrower may not have defaulted.

Although many commercial banks have more resources at their disposal than the national budgets of three-quarters of the world's developing nations, they are also more fragile than ever. This stems partly from their huge dependence upon one another through the \$1-trillion interbank loan market.

In this market, banks lend surplus funds to others usually for only a few days (although periods can extend up to 12 months) simply to avoid keeping the money idle. Therefore, the collapse of one large

bank can mean loss of interbank loans made by hundreds of others.

Worse still, if the borrowing banks lend interbank funds to a company or government that defaults, the effect on all the banks from which it borrowed can be catastrophic.

Banks lend on the interbank market simply to use their idle money and do not expect it to be tied into risky loans to outsiders. Such loans are usually raised through syndication when each participating bank can independently decide whether or not it wants to share the risks involved. The diversion of interbank money to a government on the edge of insolvency does not give that choice to all the banks involved in the chain.

Consequently, the mere specter of default by the government borrower sends jitters through the entire interbank system. The risks for lenders become nerve-shattering if the borrowing government uses interbank funds to compensate for a balance of payments deficit, making no investments capable of generating the income needed to repay its creditors.

The irony was and still is that the banks involved are generally well-managed and innovative in much of their domestic and international business. However, the shortage of liquidity created by the inability of government borrowers to even pay the interest and administration charges on their debt is so great that many banks face acute difficulties to paying off their own interbank debts. It is these difficulties rather than Third World indebtedness as such that threaten the world banking system.

Cash, which only two years ago was available to excessive quantities, is now so short that many

banks are forced to draw down hidden reserves.

This interbank market crisis, rather than Third World debt as such, is what worries the BIS. It is also the chief reason the BIS has come into prominence in the past two years.

Once the epitome of discretion, the BIS under a new president, Fritz Leutwiler, who earlier headed the Swiss National Bank, is now in the forefront of the world monetary debate. It aggressively participates in handling the dangers hanging over commercial banks and also wider issues of Third World poverty and Western economic policy.

The aim of expanding IMF and World Bank resources would be to enable developing countries to start productive projects easing their credit worthiness with commercial banks. Such banks are the only large enough source of the huge sums needed for economic development. IMF and World Bank loans cover barely about \$20 billion of Third World borrowing needs estimated at more than \$80 billion in 1983 and rising to beyond \$200 billion by 1990.

But IMF and World Bank finance is crucial because it is long term and allows borrowers to create the liquidity base — the capability of handling debt-service burdens — needed to attract commercial funds.

Commercial banks worry that Third World governments shy away from the tough political choices needed to restructure their economies rather than waste borrowed money on less productive investments. The BIS therefore makes availability of bridging finance conditional of acceptance by the borrower of harsh IMF measures to restructure the economy.

— BRIJ KHANDANIA

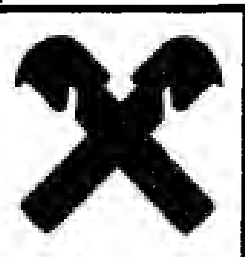
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EUROMARKETS

Canadian Banks Turn to U.S. for Growth

By Fred Langan

TORONTO — With the domestic banking market showing few signs of growth, Canadian chartered banks have been aggressively expanding in the United States.

Fifteen years of gradual moves into the United States have culminated this fall in the third largest bank in Canada announcing plans for a major acquisition of a retail banking operation in the United States.

The Bank of Montreal plans to buy Harris Bank of Chicago for \$46 million Canadian dollars, making up all the shares at 82 Canadian dollars a share. The proposed acquisition makes the Bank of Montreal the largest Canadian institution in the United States, the increase in assets will also make it the second largest bank in Canada, edging out the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce.

The deal will not be final until the fall of 1984. The Bank of Montreal has assets of 63.7 billion Canadian dollars, compared to 5.4 billion for Harris Bank, the 33rd largest bank in the United States. The acquisition would make the Bank of Montreal the sixth largest in bank operations in the United States.

The takeover is a friendly one, and the chairman of the Bank of Montreal, William Mulholland, said that he did not want to get involved in a "secret, dramatic" bidding war. Mr. Mulholland is reducing his exposure to difficulties that could come from regulators in the United States and from political opposition in Canada.

Canada's Bank Act restricts the activities of the 56 foreign banks operating in Canada by limiting their size to 8 percent of the total asset base of all banks. The total assets of all banks in Canada is 346.7 billion Canadian dollars; the foreign banks have assets of 29.4 billion Canadian dollars, just slightly under their limit. The "big five" — Royal Bank of Canada, Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, Bank of Montreal, Bank of Nova Scotia and Toronto Dominion Bank — do more than 90 percent of the business done by the 11 Canadian chartered banks.

U.S. banks operating in Canada have been petitioning the Inspector General of Banks to increase their size, and, not too surprisingly, Mr. Mulholland has been supporting them. He recently wrote a letter to Ottawa asking that the restrictions on foreign banks be removed. "We have no objections whatsoever about removing the restrictions on U.S. banks in Canada," he said. He hedged that by saying he would not

want the Bank Act reopened until it comes up for its 10-year review in 1990.

However, the finance committee of the House of Commons in Ottawa has recommended an early end to the ceiling on foreign bank assets. It would come sooner than Mr. Mulholland expected, perhaps as early as next spring, and would be done through an amendment to the Bank Act.

One worry the committee had was that keeping a loan limit on the foreign banks would drive business out of Canada. "This situation may induce foreign bank subsidiaries to refer their clients to their head office for their loans, bypassing the existing regulation," the committee said.

Buying Harris will have an effect on the Bank of Montreal's existing banking operations in the United States, namely the Bank of Montreal (California). Mr. Mulholland said that the Bank of Montreal will have to "debank" its California banking operations, meaning that it will not be allowed to take both deposits and make loans. He said the bank will probably get out of the deposit business in California, "but it doesn't make much difference anyway," he added.

The Bank of Montreal's commercial lending operations in New York City will not be affected, except he announced that the bank will be moving its U.S. headquarters from New York to Chicago.

The acquisition is seen as a good long-term move for the Bank of Montreal, which has not been growing as quickly as some of the other "big five" banks. "The Bank of Montreal is a high-growth bank and it has not worked well in a slow-growth environment," said Robert Gay, a bank analyst with Dominion Securities AMES.

The acquisition is not popular with Canadian economic nationalists. The Socialist New Democratic Party was critical of the Bank of Montreal spending money outside Canada. Mr. Mulholland replied that Ottawa's concerns with the concentration of banking power would never allow any Canadian bank to expand within Canada.

It is not the Bank of Montreal's first major foray into the United States. Apart from its interests in California it tried to buy 87 branches of the Banker's Trust Company in the late 1970s. But negotiations fell apart when the two banks started squabbling over price.

Measuring the activities of Canadian banks in

the United States is difficult. The only figures are those published in the annual reports of the banks under the heading "location of assets by ultimate risks." The real size of loan portfolios of the Canadian major in the United States is almost certainly higher but these are the latest official figures in Canadian dollars; the numbers in brackets are the percentage of each bank's total assets represented by its U.S. loans.

The Bank of Montreal, \$7.1 billion (11.4 percent), not including the planned Harris acquisition, the Bank of Nova Scotia, 6.7 billion (12.5 percent), the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, \$6.565 billion (9.6 percent), the Royal Bank of Canada, \$5.868 billion (6.7 percent), and the Toronto Dominion Bank, \$5.03 billion (11.1 percent).

In spite of those numbers, the Bank of Nova Scotia is said to be the No. 1 Canadian bank operating in the United States. "Even though the dollars don't show it, the Bank of Nova Scotia has the deepest penetration in the United States," said Mary Leslie, a bank analyst with the Toronto firm of Midland Doherty. She added that the Bank of Nova Scotia has "the largest market share of big corporate clients."

Perhaps the most surprising element that the Royal Bank of Canada, the largest in the country, has a relatively small position in the United States, eclipsed by the Bank of Nova Scotia, which holds only the fourth position in terms of assets in Canada. One reason is that the Royal Bank is international, it has offices around the world; another reason is that the Bank of Nova Scotia because of its size was squeezed out of a lot of the corporate business in Canada.

In its home country it concentrates on retail banking, small businesses, mortgages and consumer loans. Its international face is totally different. "To diversify their loan portfolio the Bank of Nova Scotia went to the United States and the Caribbean to get floating-rate loans," according to Thomas Starkey, an analyst with Bell Gounlock in Toronto.

Canadian banks have concentrated their activities in three states, New York, Illinois and California, although the "big five" banks each operate in at least five states, some in as many as nine. Canadian banks have been expanding rapidly in the United States because it is Canada's largest trading partner. In 1981, it amounted to \$110 billion, according to the Canadian government. Trade with the United States represented 66 percent of Canada's exports and 69 percent of Canada's imports.

For Euromoney, Toronto Is 'Secondary Center'

TORONTO — Toronto has become an important satellite center in the world of Euromoney.

Toronto's activity in Euromoney markets picked up in the late 1960s and early 1970s, when international brokers in the interbank deposit market began to operate from the city.

"Toronto is a secondary center," said a Canadian bank manager, "just as the Canadian dollar is a secondary currency when compared to the American."

The deposit side of the Euromoney market is handled by about 15 people at the five Canadian banks that do more than 90 percent of Canada's banking — the Royal Bank of Canada, Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, Bank of Montreal,

Bank of Nova Scotia and the Toronto Dominion Bank. Seven international brokers employ about 35 to 40 more people, with the rest of their staff dealing in foreign-exchange markets, which for Canada, also are centered in Toronto.

Of the two types of Euromoney done in Toronto — the deposit side and foreign exchange — the deposit side is far more important. The Eurodollars at the Canadian banks are U.S. dollar deposits of U.S. residents, Latin Americans and Europeans, as well as various governments, central banks and other large international banks.

Canadian brokers and banks, through their London affiliates and subsidiaries, also trade bonds and underwrite them.

"Canadians are big users of the market because they're big users of foreign capital," said Roderick Macgillivray, vice president and director of Dominion Securities AMES in Toronto. Mr. Macgillivray was in the market in London before moving back to Canada several years ago. He said that Canadian companies and especially Canadian governments borrow in the Euromarket. "They have largely good enough quality credit that they can tap a bond market as opposed to having to go to a bank."

Canadian investment dealers are active in the secondary market trading the bonds in London. The big brokers all have offices in London and elsewhere in Europe and the Far East.

Last year provincial, federal and municipal governments and corporations in Canada borrowed \$6.7 billion on the Euromarket; only the United States borrowed more. For the first six months of this year, Canada has borrowed \$2 billion, which is less than the United States, France and Japan.

There was also a small market in Euro-Canadian dollars. Last year there were \$1.2 billion in Canadian issues; there were only half a billion in the first six months of this year.

Mr. Macgillivray said the reason for the drop in borrowings this year was that "rates in Canada were so good this year that most borrowers stayed in the domestic market."

—FRED LANGAN

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EUROMARKETS

Despite Exposure, Citicorp Wins Praise

WASHINGTON — Citicorp, the world's largest banking corporation, had \$130.5 billion in assets at the end of the third quarter, including about \$10 billion in troubled loans to Brazil, Mexico, Venezuela, Argentina, Yugoslavia and Chile.

Standing against those and all other questionable loans in its \$88.3-billion portfolio, Citicorp had only \$736 million in loan loss reserves and \$8 billion in other total capital.

A complete default on the roughly \$4.5 billion worth of loans to Brazil alone could leave the bank's capital position severely impaired. The impact of any such default deeply worries U.S. bank regulators and the Federal Reserve. As a senior Reagan administration official put it, "There hasn't been a week this year that we haven't gone to the brink with Brazil."

Yet, whatever cloud may be hanging over Citicorp or other major U.S. banks as a result of the continuing international debt crisis, stockholders of its parent holding company, Citicorp, are hardly bailing out in droves. The price-earnings ratio of the stock is down, probably because the market is keeping one eye cocked toward those potential foreign loan losses. But the drop in the ratio has been only from six last year to five currently.

Meanwhile, a number of stock analysts have given "buy" recommendations on the stock because of its prospective earnings growth, which they say is not fully reflected in the price of its shares.

Citicorp continues to earn more than a 16-percent return on equity, and the analysts generally project steadily rising per-share earnings for coming years, always assuming the worst does not come to pass in Latin America.

Lawrence W. Cohn, who follows Citicorp for Dean Witter Reynolds, the brokers, wrote not long ago: "Citicorp has strongly outperformed the market since mid-1982, but we believe that the stock still offers tremendous potential. The company's operating leverage from declining interest rates and the continuing benefits of usury relief is extraordinary, and Citicorp's outlook is exceptionally bright as a result."

"On the international side, a new pricing cycle should continue to result in substantially improved pricing and profitability. Domestically, Citicorp's consumer banking business is now solidly in the black, with further substantial operating earnings growth expected," the analyst's report continued.

"As fears about an international monetary collapse abate and as the market begins to appreciate the opportunities of deregulation, we believe that Citicorp's price-earnings multiple will rise appreciably. Citicorp remains our favorite buy recommendation in the multinational banking group," it said.

Ironically, the international debt crisis that has left Citicorp exposed to a potential disaster seems to be helping the bank make more money in the short run.

Citicorp, like all other larger money-center banks, acquires a substantial portion of the funds it lends by borrowing money itself, using a wide variety of money market instruments, such as large certificates of deposit. Both in the United States and in other countries, many banks faced with large actual or potential loan losses have found their own credit ratings slipping. As a result, it costs them more to borrow needed funds.

That is one reason, for instance, that some of the big banks have been courting retail deposits so vigorously. They want to minimize their level of outstanding large CDs both because the market is requiring them to pay a premium and because of a fear that, in a crisis, they could not roll them over.

But Citicorp's reputation is such that it has had no such problems, whatever its exposure. As the Dean Witter Reynolds report noted: "Euromarket pricing [of loans] has improved significantly due to reduced OPEC balance-of-trade surpluses and increased perceptions of risk brought on by fears about Poland, Mexico, Argentina, and other countries."

"In this environment, major U.S. multinational banks continue to access the markets at the best rates, while virtually all non-U.S. banks pay a premium, which leaves the U.S. banks with better volume and higher margins. With its worldwide branch network, Citicorp is ideally positioned to benefit."

After Citicorp reported third quarter earnings of \$221 million, or \$1.58 per share fully diluted, Lawrence R. Fuller, an analyst with Drexel Burnham Lambert, echoed the sentiments of Mr. Cohn.

"We continue to believe that the operating results of the corporation will outperform the results of the other major bank holding companies over the next two to three years," Mr. Fuller wrote. "We consider the corporation the leader in the application of advanced computer telecommunications systems to the development and delivery of financial services to both retail and corporate markets."

"The valuation of the common stock is depressed, as is the valuation of the other major international money-center banks, by the negative psychologies surrounding the rescheduling of major developing country credits."

On occasion, Citicorp has been less forthcoming than some other major banks about its exposure to possible foreign loan losses, but it is clear that it has classified only a few of such loans as nonperforming. "Nonperforming loans," according to the bank, "include nonaccrual loans and renegotiated loans. Nonaccrual loans are those on which, as a result of doubt as to collection, income is recognized only to the extent cash is received. Renegotiated loans are those on which the rate of interest has been reduced as a result of the borrower's inability to meet the original terms."

At the end of the third quarter this year, Citicorp had \$2.6 billion worth of nonperforming loans, about 3 percent of its total portfolio. That compares with a historical high of 5.1 percent at the end of 1976.

The \$2.6 billion figure is about \$900 million higher than the year-end 1982 number and \$1.6 billion higher than year-end 1981. However, in the first nine months of this year, the bank's total capital, including loan loss reserves, has increased by more than \$1 billion.

The large increases in nonperforming loans both in 1982 and this year were primarily in the bank's overseas offices, particularly in Mexico and other Latin American countries, the bank said. Most of

the borrowers were in the private sector.

Citicorp regards its policy on classifying loans as "aggressive," and cites as evidence the fact that in the first three quarters of this year, it received cash payments representing a 10.3-percent yield on nonperforming loans. "This yield compares closely with the average base lending rate of 11 percent in 1983," the bank said in releasing its third-quarter earnings statement.

In other words, the bank was doing almost as well with its nonperforming loans as with all its other loans.

Meanwhile, under its chairman, Walter B. Wriston, Citicorp continues to pursue its nationwide expansion in financial services as aggressively as the law and regulatory decisions will allow.

Last year, it became the first major bank holding company to acquire a thrift institution in a state other than the one in which it is based. The acquisition of Fidelity Savings & Loan of San Francisco, now renamed Citicorp Savings, gave Citicorp access to the lucrative California market through more than 80 branches.

With the remaining barriers to interstate banking being steadily eroded in the United States — the six New England states, for instance, have acted on their own to allow interstate banking for institutions within that region — Citicorp can be expected to continue to expand in whatever direction looks profitable.

Worldwide, the number of offices of Citicorp branches, subsidiaries and affiliates is approaching 2,500.

Another New York analyst who has followed the big U.S. banks for years regards Citicorp with something approaching awe. "They've got a perpetual motion machine over at Citicorp," he said, "and they are simply the conduit for money, and their executives believe they can make money no matter what. Their pockets are so deep that they don't ever panic because they can probably outlast any kind of problem."

So far, Citicorp seems to be outlasting the international debt crisis, and making steadily more money to boot.

— JOHN M. BERRY

Asian Offshore Banking: The Shakeout Goes On

(Continued From Page 7)

the six months ended in September. Caution over incurring new international commitments kept the total actually extended to 600 billion yen. The shortfall is a telling indicator of the Japanese banks' changed attitude, since until recent months they have been very keen to promote yen credits. They generate management fees for Japanese banks and, in turn, they eliminate the lenders' exchange risk.

Now, however, Japanese banks are concentrating on blue chip borrowers: Finland's borrowing of 25 billion yen at the beginning of November was a great success because of the number of banks that wanted to lead to a premium European name (61 financial institutions were eventually included in the deal). Yen loans, other than those to support trade contracts, are, however, becoming increasingly hard to come by for lower-quality borrowers.

Most of the problems that face offshore banks in Asia this year can be traced to wider world credit trends, but each of Asia's three leading financial markets has had to battle serious problems of its own as well.

Hong Kong's travails have been the greatest — political jeopardy, banking crises, property and equities slumping in price, and a run on the currency. Barring the 1997 issue, however, the succession of financial and economic shocks does not seem to have shaken the confidence of foreign bankers in Hong Kong's troubles.

Kong's role as the leading financial center of Asia. There appears to be a growing realization that in their different ways the collapse of property prices and rentals, and the fall in the value of the Hong Kong dollar, have a much needed restorative to the colony's trade competitiveness.

"It was getting to the stage where it was no longer possible to make and export loans in Hong Kong," a banker said. "Or at least you could, but they would need to be priced at \$35 a pair."

Lower property prices mean cheaper factory space. A lower Hong Kong dollar means more competitive exports. Without intervention by the authorities, the correction to both prices went further, and faster, than it would have in many other economies — harrowing while it happened, but inevitable for the health of the real economy.

Singapore has been spared many of the problems of its rival for banking supremacy in Asia, yet the ACU market has run out of steam. The total assets held by ACUs seem to have reached a plateau between \$100 billion and \$110 billion, and it could well be that Singapore has attracted about as many banks as it is going to get — about 160. The abolition of withholding tax on the interest, accruing to nonresidents' deposits by the Hong Kong authorities in February 1982 seems to have pulled some funds away from Singapore, funds that have not come back despite Hong Kong's troubles.

Singapore has hit back by offering a concessional tax rate on the profits made by fund managers (ACUs are taxed at 10 percent on their profits, and from May 1 that rate has also been applied to the fees of fund managers, while MAS has also guaranteed that the income of nonresident investors in funds managed from Singapore will not fall under Singapore tax — a possibility that had worried fund managers about establishing an operation in Singapore).

Whether the new provision will help Singapore in the catch-up-with-Hong-Kong race remains to be seen: an even more direct challenge to Hong Kong, matching its zero tax on syndicated-loan income (provided some conditions are met, such as ensuring that at least half the lead managers are based in Singapore and that most of the work is done there), was announced in the Singapore budget in March this year, but does not seem to have influenced the market's dealings in the last eight months.

Tokyo, in its turn, has had to back away from setting up an offshore banking center. Japanese banks are not in the mood to expand their international financing, even from the comfort of their own doorstep. The Japanese authorities are worried about the international money markets into the domestic yen markets, and opposition from banks afraid that they will lose out to offshore banking units — especially from the trust banks and long-term credit banks,

who believe their privileged access to longer maturity deposits will be threatened — has not been overcome with the promise of offsetting benefits in other areas of their business.

Offshore banking in Hong Kong has certainly benefited from zero taxation of offshore income (in the theory, according to some sources, offshore income falls within the ambit of Hong Kong's corporate tax rate, of 16.5 percent, but in practice tax is not levied). But it seems to be rather more rooted in the banks' freedom to run their operations as they please, in Hong Kong's trade, and in the business opportunities in Hong Kong's banking hinterland of China, South Korea and Taiwan.

Singapore, on the other hand, has followed a rather more house approach — tax breaks, but within a regulated system. MAS, for example, restricts the amount of business an ACU may do within Singapore (and taxes it at Singapore's corporate rate of 40 percent), and in general keeps a close eye on its ACUs.

Tokyo seems likely to fall somewhere in between. It is unlikely to offer any special incentives to OBUs to set up in Tokyo, other than the abolition of the 10-percent withholding tax it charges on nonresidents' interest income (the rate varies according to the nationality of the nonresident, but it is 10 percent in the case of the United States and most of Western Europe) and other charges, such as reserve requirements and insurance, on offshore deposits.

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EUROMARKETS

Private Companies In Latin America Scramble for Funds

WASHINGTON — Most private firms in the debt-ridden countries of Latin America that have international dealings are scrambling to find the foreign exchange they need to do business.

The situation apparently is easing in Mexico, where adjustment to the new economic reality flowing from the debt crisis is farther along. In Brazil, Argentina and elsewhere, private companies are still turning to whatever source they can for the needed funds.

Trade finance is perhaps the most urgent problem, since it may be the key to keeping imports of critical parts or commodities, without which production lines cannot operate.

Its importance has been recognized by the International Monetary Fund, the banks and the various countries involved in trying to find a way out of the continuing crisis. For instance, the agreement earlier this year between the IMF and Brazil recognized this by calling for no reduction in the then outstanding \$10 billion worth of trade credits. To the dismay of officials, those short-term credits by July had dropped to between \$5 billion and \$7 billion.

Some of the countries have also used regulations to try to ease the trade credit crunch. Beginning in April 1981, Argentina required that trade credits be extended to Argentine importers for at least 180 days, a requirement that was reduced to 120 days last May. Brazil used the same 180-day requirement for some imports beginning in October 1980.

Nevertheless, some of the emergency steps taken this year and last to keep the debtor nations solvent, such as tight restrictions on private-sector access to scarce foreign exchange, have left many companies high and dry.

To determine the extent of this problem and to get information about how it is being met, the Council of the Americas, an association of more than 180 major U.S. companies, with investment, trading, banking and service activities in Latin America, recently surveyed more than 100 of its members who have manufacturing subsidiaries or affiliates there.

Thirty-five of the U.S. corporations, with collective worldwide sales of \$230 billion last year, in-

cluding \$16.7 billion by affiliates in Mexico, Brazil, Argentina and Venezuela, replied to the council's questionnaire. There were at least 20 affiliates covered in each of the four countries.

Among the key findings of the council were the following:

• Overall, dollar earnings by the affiliates will be sharply reduced in 1983 compared to prior years.

• Where trade financing remains available, there has been a major shift to fully secured terms.

• Barter, countertrade and the like have replaced some normal trade financing, with greater use of these options expected in 1984.

• Of dollar borrowing by the affiliates, about 10 percent is owed to the parent corporation. About half of that 10 percent is past due.

• Some companies said that they would indefinitely continue to fully finance their local affiliates, but others report having reached their limit, and still others are approaching theirs.

Meanwhile, with the affiliates being squeezed, dividend remittances will be down this year, and in some cases very sharply. Dollar equity invested in the affiliates has fallen by one-third this year in Venezuela, is down slightly in Brazil and Mexico, and is not growing in Argentina, the council said.

While official statistics are scanty, there are a few available that tend to confirm the paucity of new trade credits from U.S. sellers of goods. For instance, last March non-banking business enterprises in the United States reported they held \$401 million worth of commercial claims on unaffiliated foreigners in Brazil. That was less than half the figure at the end of 1980 and 50 percent lower than the year-end 1981 figure.

Comparably, the \$864 million for Mexico in March was down from \$1,002 billion at the end of 1981. The Venezuelan figure was \$286 million, against \$424 million.

Since the debt crisis arose, the U.S. corporations have clearly favored their affiliates in matters of trade credit. "About 90 percent of all shipments from parents to affiliates were on unsecured terms as of mid-1983," the report said.

— JOHN M. BERRY

Multinationals Become Focus of Moves to Standardize Company Data

GENEVA — Increasing worldwide interest in the operations of multinational companies by both investors and governments has focused attention in recent years on the need to improve the comparability of financial and general data about the companies.

Initially, the traditionally secretive companies were worried by this trend, but they seem to have realized that a certain amount of standardization of information could work to their advantage. For instance, minimum norms of information disclosure in comparable formats can help them to better compare their own performance against competitors, while disarming critics and reducing the hostility with which multinational companies often are received in developing, as well as European countries.

Attention in the general area of information disclosure has centered on reducing disparities in the presentation of financial accounts. Discussions are under way in several international forums to work out norms that companies might observe without being burdened by excessive administrative changes.

The most significant work is being done within the Paris-based Organization for Economic Coop-

eration and Development, which is analyzing several detailed aspects of company accounts.

More general points — international standards of accounting and reporting — are being prepared by the United Nations Center on Transnational Corporations, based in New York. These will have considerable long-term impact. But discussions are heavily affected by political considerations, such as the desire of developing countries to control the operations of multinational companies more tightly.

The work with the most immediate impact has been done by the European Community's Executive Commission in Brussels. The Council of Ministers approved a new binding regulation — the seventh directive on group accounts — in May this year concerning the drawing up of consolidated accounts according to internationally recognized criteria.

Under the directive, EC governments will introduce laws by the start of 1988 obliging companies to obey new rules on consolidated accounts for the financial year starting Jan. 1, 1990. The directive, which will apply only within the EC, may not bring large changes in existing practices that are already subject to local laws, but its significance lies in its bold foray into national accounting practices to enforce EC standards.

The difficulties of standardizing accounting methods are illustrated by the seven years of talks it took to reach the EC directive, the six years already spent in talks by the OECD's working group on accounting standards and the 10 years spent on the planned UN standards.

While governments are the main participants in each set of talks, regular advice is taken from accountancy associations and interested companies. The aim of the EC directive is to ensure that Europe-based multinationals present consolidated accounts.

The OECD's work is aimed at helping investors and business analysts, as well as reducing headaches for companies arising from the varying accounting practices of different countries.

The United Nations is analyzing how multinationals might alter their information disclosure policies to reveal more data to developing country governments wishing to assess the contribution of multinationals to their economies.

The EC's seventh directive affects nearly 2 million companies. It stipulates that a group's consolidated accounts must include all dependent undertakings.

The directive contains six definitions of a group, for the purposes of consolidation of accounts. Undertakings related to each other in any of the six

ways constitute a group. However, member states may exempt from this requirement groups with a balance-sheet total of less than \$4 million or a turnover of less than \$8 million or that employ fewer than 250 people.

The directive's chief aim is to ensure that the consolidated annual report should include "a fair review" of the undertaking seen as a whole. An earlier directive — the fourth directive of 1978 — sets standards for the format of annual accounts, valuation rules, adjustments for inflation and auditing methods.

The OECD's work on accounting standards is aimed at clarifying various accounting and reporting terms contained in the organization's guidelines for multinational enterprises approved in 1976.

It expanded earlier this year to areas rarely explored in intergovernmental talks, such as separation of accounts prepared for purposes other than financial purposes, the role of consolidated accounts, transfer pricing and translation of foreign currency transactions into local currency to correct for exchange-rate fluctuations.

The OECD also is examining the specific problems involved in improving the comparability of accounts of banks and insurance companies.

— BRJ KHINDARIA

Debt Problems Becoming a Serious Burden Across Sub-Saharan Africa

By Carol Lancaster

WASHINGTON — Bankers have been known to cringe at the mention of "an African debt crisis." They emphasize that African debt is small in global terms — roughly 10 percent of the total debt of less developed countries — and African debt problems do not threaten the financial health of creditors.

But debt has become a serious burden for a number of sub-Saharan African countries, including Zaire, Sudan, Ivory Coast, Togo, Madagascar, Senegal, Malawi and Zambia. The ratios of their total external debt to gross national product and their annual debt service to export earnings are as high as they are for major debtors in Latin America or elsewhere. In some African countries, annual debt service payments actually exceed export earnings.

Much of the foreign debt carried by African countries is public — foreign aid loans made on soft terms to countries that are among the poorest in the world. However, during the 1970s, a number of African countries borrowed substantially from private sources, mainly banks, on commercial terms. As a result, the proportion of commercial debt owed by African countries is approaching 40 percent of total medium-term and long-term debt.

Also, the average terms of loans have hardened; maturities have shortened and interest rates have risen.

African countries first entered commercial markets for substantial borrowings in the mid-1970s when the prices of primary products, the principal exports of many of these countries, rose along with petroleum prices. Economic prospects for copper-exporting Zaire or for Sudan, which was seen as "the breadbasket of the Middle East," appeared bright, and banks were awash in petrodollars.

However, prospects for non-oil exporting African countries soon dimmed. Recession in the late 1970s and in the early 1980s led to a decline in demand and prices for primary-product exports. With the continuing rise in the prices of oil and manufactured-goods imports, African states not producing oil found themselves in a serious balance-of-payments squeeze. A number of governments again borrowed commercially to ease the impact on their economies of the sharp deterioration in their terms of trade.

Debt problems in Africa are not just the result of a short-term liquidity squeeze, to be endured until the world economy recovers and demand and prices for their exports pick up. Prices for essential imports are unlikely to fall and

prices for many of Africa's exports are not projected to rise substantially in coming years. Thus, the Africans will have to make painful — and perhaps even politically disruptive — adjustments — in their economies. The challenge is to manage their debt and adjustments without choking off economic growth.

To deal with their immediate debt crisis, African countries have turned to the International Monetary Fund for standby agreements and extended fund facilities. As of the end of July 1983, 15 African countries had agreements with the IMF. Such agreements are not without conditions. They typically include restrictions on domestic credit creation and on government expenditures, reduction or elimination of subsidies, limits on wage increases, tax reform and currency devaluation.

African governments often have objected vigorously to IMF conditions on the grounds that they are so severe as to prevent growth, that they take a disproportionately heavy toll on lower-income groups, that their free-market orientation conflicts with the socialist policies of individual governments and that devaluation does little to expand exports but raises the price of imports and the domestic inflation rate.

These criticisms often have an element of truth. But no one in or out of the IMF has been able to come up with a formula for dealing with economic adjustments that does not include painful reforms. Despite these objections, many governments, desperate for balance of payments financing, have had little choice but to accept IMF conditions. An IMF program has become virtually a precondition for the rescheduling of public and private debts.

During the last three years, more African governments have had to seek debt rescheduling than any other regional grouping. By the end of 1981, 20 African countries were in arrears in their foreign debt payments. From 1979 to 1982, of 17 countries seeking to reschedule their public debt through the Paris Club, 16 were African. A number of African countries, Zaire and Sudan in particular, have had to seek successive reschedulings as they have found themselves unable to service already-rescheduled debts.

African governments with significant amounts of private debt also have had to reschedule these debts. Liberia, Senegal and Sudan also rescheduled their bank debt in 1982.

For a number of countries, IMF conditions have proven impossible to meet. In some cases, projections of economic growth or export earnings have proven overoptimistic; in other cases, policy changes required by the agreements — for example, reductions in subsidies on foodstuffs, or contractions in government credit — have proven too risky for politicians to undertake or, once undertaken, to maintain. Nigeria and South Africa represent special cases of African debt. Their debt is largely private, with South Africa having the largest and Nigeria the second largest debt in sub-Saharan Africa. In the case of Nigeria, the leveling off in oil prices has resulted in serious balance of payments problems, with short-term debt repayments postponed and substantial arrears accumulating. The Nigerians have refinanced some of their short-term debt and are negotiating with the IMF on a loan agreement.

The drop in the price of gold caused balance-of-payments difficulties in South Africa last year and the Pretoria government also turned to the IMF to borrow.

And so, what are the prospects over the coming years for African countries facing debt problems? Debt service payments are projected to continue to increase over the coming year. To meet these payments without choking off their economic growth, African countries must increase their foreign ex-

change through expanding exports, reducing imports and domestic consumption and, where possible, they must obtain a larger inflow of aid and commercial loans. They also must hope that interest rates do not rise.

Prospects are not bright for major improvements in any of these areas. African export markets are likely to remain weak. They could weaken further if high U.S. federal budget deficits drive up interest rates and halt the economic recovery in industrialized countries. The return of recession could mean low world demand for raw materials and higher costs of borrowing. Domestic policy reforms, particularly in the face of continuing economic stress, will remain painful and risky and governments are likely to move cautiously at best. There is a good possibility that aid flows to Africa will fall in real terms rather than rise if the United States sticks by its policy of reducing the total resources available to the International Development Association, the soft-loan window of the World Bank, which is low-income Africa's principal source of aid.

The writer is director of African Studies at Georgetown University. She was formerly a deputy assistant secretary of state in the bureau of African affairs.

Société Générale is pleased to announce that, in 1982 and the first nine months of 1983 it lead-managed the following thirty-four Eurobond issues:

Sté d'Habitation du Québec,	Can. \$ 50,000,000	(1982-1988)
Banque Nationale du Canada,	Can. \$ 50,000,000	(1982-1988)
Ville de Québec,	Can. \$ 25,000,000	(1982-1987)
Fonds de Rétablissement	ECU 25,000,000	(1982-1990)
du Conseil de l'Europe,	US \$ 50,000,000	(1982-1992)
Istituto Mobiliare Italiano,	Can. \$ 50,000,000	(1982-1988)
Province de Québec,	US \$ 50,000,000	(1982-1989)
Dome Petroleum,	US \$ 100,000,000	(1982-1992)
Ville de Montréal,	Can. \$ 50,000,000	(1982-1987)
Nacional Financiera SA,	Can. \$ 50,000,000	(1982-1989)
Province de Québec,	US \$ 100,000,000	(1982-1989)
EDF,	US \$ 275,000,000	(1982-1990)
C.N.T.,	US \$ 150,000,000	(1982-1988)
S.N.C.F.,	ECU 30,000,000	(1982-1992)
Sociétés de Développement Régional,	Can. \$ 20,000,000	(1982-1990)
Gas Metropolitan,	US \$ 100,000,000	(1982-1988)
General Motors Acceptance Corporation	Can. \$ 50,000,000	(1982-1988)
of Canada, Limited,		
Province de Québec,	ECU 30,000,000	(1982-1992)
Fonds de Rétablissement	Can. \$ 75,000,000	(1982-1989)
du Conseil de l'Europe,		
Gaz de France,		
Crédit d'Équipement des	ECU 50,000,000	(1982-1990)
Petites & Moyennes Entreprises,	US \$ 75,000,000	(1982-1992)
C.E.P.M.E.,	Can. \$ 40,000,000	(1982-1992)
S.N.C.F.,	Can. \$ 25,000,000	(1982-1992)
Gas Metropolitan,	US \$ 125,000,000	(1983-1991)
Ville de Québec,	ECU 50,000,000	(1983-1993)
Société Générale,	US \$ 300,000,000	(1983-1993)
E.E.G.,	US \$ 500,000,000	(1983-1988)
EDF,		
R.E.C.E.,		
Crédit d'Équipement des Petites	Can. \$ 50,000,000	(1983-1990)
& Moyennes Entreprises, C.E.P.M.E.,	ECU 50,000,000	(1983-1989)
Province de Québec,	Can. \$ 50,000,000	(1983-1991)
Ville de Montréal,	US \$ 200,000,000	(1983-1990)
Société Générale,		
Fonds de rétablissement	ECU 35,000,000	(1983-1993)
du Conseil de l'Europe,	Can. \$ 50,000,000	(1983-1993)
Province de Québec,		
The Industrial Bank		
of Japan Finance Company NV,	ECU 40,000,000	(1983-1993)

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188 Sweden	11/4 '97	Aug	98%	11.31	11.42	199 Romania Mockintosh	10/4 '98	Feb	99	12.94	12.47
190 G.D.R.	8/4 '98	Jun	91	11.84	11.14	197 Denmark Erik Elmose	1/8 '98	May	96%	12.45	

12.15	11.58	\$30	AMU AG	1% 28 Mar	71	12.08	12.78	12.10	112	Paragon Trust Finance	11% 12 Feb	104	12.03
12.28	11.52	\$30	Assef	11% 28 Mar	71	12.73	13.75	9.14	115	Sears Intl	10% 28 Feb	97%	11.60
12.13	11.50	\$30	Atlas Conco Ab	9% 25 Aug	95%	12.54	13.74	9.35	150	Selection Trust	5% 27 Apr	87%	11.83 12.25
		\$30				12.57	13.87	9.78	150	Selection Trust			

100	101	102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154	155	156	157	158	159	160	161	162	163	164	165	166	167	168	169	170	171	172	173	174	175	176	177	178	179	180	181	182	183	184	185	186	187	188	189	190	191	192	193	194	195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300	301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368	369	370	371	372	373	374	375	376	377	378	379	380	381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389	390	391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400	401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410	411	412	413	414	415	416	417	418	419	420	421	422	423	424	425	426	427	428	429	430	431	432	433	434	435	436	437	438	439	440	441	442	443	444	445	446	447	448	449	450	451	452	453	454	455	456	457	458	459	460	461	462	463	464	465	466	467	468	469	470	471	472	473	474	475	476	477	478	479	480	481	482	483	484	485	486	487	488	489	490	491	492	493	494	495	496	497	498	499	500	501	502	503	504	505	506	507	508	509	510	511	512	513	514	515	516	517	518	519	520	521	522	523	524	525	526	527	528	529	530	531	532	533	534	535	536	537	538	539	540	541	542	543	544	545	546	547	548	549	550	551	552	553	554	555	556	557	558	559	560	561	562	563	564	565	566	567	568	569	570	571	572	573	574	575	576	577	578	579	580	581	582	583	584	585	586	587	588	589	590	591	592	593	594	595	596	597	598	599	600	601	602	603	604	605	606	607	608	609	610	611	612	613	614	615	616	617	618	619	620	621	622	623	624	625	626	627	628	629	630	631	632	633	634	635	636	637	638	639	640	641	642	643	644	645	646	647	648	649	650	651	652	653	654	655	656	657	658	659	660	661	662	663	664	665	666	667	668	669	670	671	672	673	674	675	676	677	678	679	680	681	682	683	684	685	686	687	688	689	690	691	692	693	694	695	696	697	698	699	700	701	702	703	704	705	706	707	708	709	710	711	712	713	714	715	716	717	718	719	720	721	722	723	724	725	726	727	728	729	730	731	732	733	734	735	736	737	738	739	740	741	742	743	744	745	746	747	748	749	750	751	752	753	754	755	756	757	758	759	760	761	762	763	764	765	766	767	768	769	770	771	772	773	774	775	776	777	778	779	780	781	782	783	784	785	786	787	788	789	790	791	792	793	794	795	796	797	798	799	800	801	802	803	804	805	806	807	808	809	810	811	812	813	814	815	816	817	818	819	820	821	822	823	824	825	826	827	828	829	830	831	832	833	834	835	836	837	838	839	840	841	842	843	844	845	846	847	848	849	850	851	852	853	854	855	856	857	858	859	860	861	862	863	864	865	866	867	868	869	870	871	872	873	874	875	876	877	878	879	880	881	882	883	884	885	886	887	888	889	890	891	892	893	894	895	896	897	898	899	900	901	902	903	904	905	906	907	908	909	910	911	912	913	914	915	916	917	918	919	920	921	922	923	924	925	926	927	928	929	930	931	932	933	934	935	936	937	938	939	940	941	942	943	944	945	946	947	948	949	950	951	952	953	954	955	956	957	958	959	960	961	962	963	964	965	966	967	968	969	970	971	972	973	974	975	976	977	978	979	980	981	982	983	984	985	986	987	988	989	990	991	992	993	994	995	996	997	998	999	1000
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DM STRAIGHT BONDS

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U.S. Banks Back

Is Call for

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 28.—The United States Bankers Association today endorsed a plan for a national currency board proposed by the Federal Reserve Board.

The plan, which was first announced by the Federal Reserve Board last week, calls for the creation of a national currency board, which would be composed of representatives of the Federal Reserve Board, the United States Treasury, and the Federal Reserve Banks.

The board would be responsible for the issuance and redemption of national currency, and would also be responsible for the management of the national currency fund.

The plan is a continuation of the work of the National Currency Board, which was established in 1913, and which was reorganized in 1922.

The plan is also a response to the demand for a national currency board, which has been expressed by the United States Bankers Association and other financial organizations.

The plan is expected to be adopted by the Federal Reserve Board in the near future.

SYNDICATE

ST. LOUIS, Jan. 28.—The St. Louis syndicate of banks, which was organized last week, today announced that it had secured the services of a national currency board.

The syndicate, which is composed of the St. Louis, St. Paul, and Chicago banks, has been working to secure the services of a national currency board for some time.

The syndicate has now announced that it has secured the services of a national currency board, which will be composed of representatives of the Federal Reserve Board, the United States Treasury, and the Federal Reserve Banks.

The syndicate is expected to be the first to secure the services of a national currency board.

Work

Is Under

NEW YORK, Jan. 28.—The work of the national currency board is under way, according to a report from the Federal Reserve Board.

The board has announced that it has received the necessary funds to begin its work, and that it is now working to establish its headquarters and to begin its operations.

The board is expected to begin its work in the near future.

CURRENCY RATE

Country	Rate
France	100
Germany	100
Italy	100
Japan	100
Spain	100
Sweden	100
Switzerland	100
United Kingdom	100
United States	100

Dollar Values

Country	Value
France	100
Germany	100
Italy	100
Japan	100
Spain	100
Sweden	100
Switzerland	100
United Kingdom	100
United States	100

1954	2,554	1,000	1,554
1955	2,700	1,100	1,600
1956	2,850	1,200	1,650
1957	2,950	1,300	1,650
1958	3,050	1,400	1,650
1959	3,150	1,500	1,650
1960	3,250	1,600	1,650
1961	3,350	1,700	1,650
1962	3,450	1,800	1,650
1963	3,550	1,900	1,650
1964	3,650	2,000	1,650
1965	3,750	2,100	1,650
1966	3,850	2,200	1,650
1967	3,950	2,300	1,650
1968	4,050	2,400	1,650
1969	4,150	2,500	1,650
1970	4,250	2,600	1,650
1971	4,350	2,700	1,650
1972	4,450	2,800	1,650
1973	4,550	2,900	1,650
1974	4,650	3,000	1,650
1975	4,750	3,100	1,650
1976	4,850	3,200	1,650
1977	4,950	3,300	1,650
1978	5,050	3,400	1,650
1979	5,150	3,500	1,650
1980	5,250	3,600	1,650
1981	5,350	3,700	1,650
1982	5,450	3,800	1,650
1983	5,550	3,900	1,650
1984	5,650	4,000	1,650
1985	5,750	4,100	1,650
1986	5,850	4,200	1,650
1987	5,950	4,300	1,650
1988	6,050	4,400	1,650
1989	6,150	4,500	1,650
1990	6,250	4,600	1,650
1991	6,350	4,700	1,650
1992	6,450	4,800	1,650
1993	6,550	4,900	1,650
1994	6,650	5,000	1,650
1995	6,750	5,100	1,650
1996	6,850	5,200	1,650
1997	6,950	5,300	1,650
1998	7,050	5,400	1,650
1999	7,150	5,500	1,650
2000	7,250	5,600	1,650
2001	7,350	5,700	1,650
2002	7,450	5,800	1,650
2003	7,550	5,900	1,650
2004	7,650	6,000	1,650
2005	7,750	6,100	1,650
2006	7,850	6,200	1,650
2007	7,950	6,300	1,650
2008	8,050	6,400	1,650
2009	8,150	6,500	1,650
2010	8,250	6,600	1,650
2011	8,350	6,700	1,650
2012	8,450	6,800	1,650
2013	8,550	6,900	1,650
2014	8,650	7,000	1,650
2015	8,750	7,100	1,650
2016	8,850	7,200	1,650
2017	8,950	7,300	1,650
2018	9,050	7,400	1,650
2019	9,150	7,500	1,650
2020	9,250	7,600	1,650
2021	9,350	7,700	1,650
2022	9,450	7,800	1,650
2023	9,550	7,900	1,650
2024	9,650	8,000	1,650
2025	9,750	8,100	1,650
2026	9,850	8,200	1,650
2027	9,950	8,300	1,650
2028	10,050	8,400	1,650
2029	10,150	8,500	1,650
2030	10,250	8,600	1,650
2031	10,350	8,700	1,650
2032	10,450	8,800	1,650
2033	10,550	8,900	1,650
2034	10,650	9,000	1,650
2035	10,750	9,100</	

EUROBONDS

By CARL GEWIRTZ

Underwriters Stack Up Paper at Profit As Rate Fears Drive Away Investors

PARIS — Don't be fooled by the calendar of new Eurobonds with this column.

The continued flow of new issues should not be assumed to mean that investors are buying bonds. They are not.

Rather, the paper is stacking up on the shelves of underwriters who are apparently happy to do this since it can be done at a profit and, equally importantly, are undisturbed by investor fears about which-way interest rates are headed.

Unless there is some dramatic signal that rates are headed lower, bankers advise investors are not likely to be back in force until the new year. The non-dollar segments of the market are suffering from the additional burden of a strengthening dollar.

While most analysts agree that the dollar is overvalued, the rise in value does not attract investors to buy Deutsche marks at what must be a steep rate, but rather frightens them about how much higher the dollar will climb.

The dollar sector of the market also suffered from the overpricing of bank paper. Allied Irish Bank of New York and European American Bank Corp. offered floating-rate notes. Bank of Tokyo sold \$100 million of seven-year bonds at par bearing a coupon of 11 1/2 percent. Security Pacific issued \$100 million of five-year notes at par bearing a coupon of 11 1/2 percent, and DG Bank offered 75,000 of six-month warrants to buy seven-year bonds at par bearing a coupon of 11 1/2 percent.

Belgium's floating-rate note was increased \$100 million to \$400 million, but underwriters, outside the lead manager's group said they had sold virtually no paper and were left with the excess.

McDonald's, the only corporate issuer of fixed-rate straight debt, was also slow to attract investors. Its \$75 million of 10-year bonds were priced at par bearing a coupon of 11 1/2 percent. At the same time, it sold five-year warrants to buy \$75 million of 11 1/2 percent bonds. The bonds ended the week at a discount of 1 1/2 points while the warrants, at \$18.50, were fractionally ahead of the \$17.50 offering price.

Prudential's Offering

While there was some evidence of investor desire for equity-linked paper, Prudential's offering of bonds with warrants to buy shares of the new American Telephone & Telegraph and the regional telephone companies was viewed as not especially attractive.

Prudential offered \$150 million of 10-year bonds at par bearing a coupon of 10 1/2 percent. In exchange for this low coupon, Prudential attached to each \$100,000 seven warrants that can be exercised anytime over the next five years. Each warrant buys 10 new AT&T shares and one share each of the seven regional companies.

To exercise each warrant an investor has to pay \$75.50 — a price that was 15.3 percent over the old, prefunded, AT&T price quoted Wednesday when the terms were set.

The bonds alone were quoted at 90 1/2 to yield 11 1/2 percent. The warrants alone were quoted at \$110 each, putting a value of \$770 on the seven offered. The package — \$907.50 for the bond plus \$770 for the warrants — was quoted at 98 1/2.

While the length of the option — much longer than available on any U.S. option market — was considered interesting, the offer did not come cheap. The \$75.50 exercise price plus the \$770 value of the warrants means that the stock price would have to rise 31 percent before investors started to make money.

Prudential, by contrast, is making money from the start. If it has purchased the \$60 million worth of shares that it will need to issue if the warrants are exercised, it will earn 8 percent annual dividend income (assuming that the dividend remains unchanged) on the stock. Admittedly, taxes on this income, plus whatever — if any — expense it has incurred to hedge the holding in case the stock price collapses, reduces the gain. But it is still making money on the holding. And, not to be forgotten, it (Continued on Page 20, Col. 5)

IBM Files Big Lawsuit On Secrets

By James Barron

NEW YORK — International Business Machines Corp. filed a \$7.5-billion lawsuit Friday against National Semiconductor Corp. in the latest chapter of its continuing fight to protect what it says are its trade secrets.

IBM had previously sued National Semiconductor and a wholly owned subsidiary, National Advanced Systems, on charges that the company, which makes memory chips for computers, and Hitachi Ltd. of Japan cooperated in a joint espionage campaign to steal IBM product plans. The charges grew out of a federal investigation last year.

The spokesman for National Semiconductor, which is based in Santa Clara, California, was not at home Friday night and could not be reached for comment.

IBM has already reached out-of-court settlements with more than a dozen other companies and individuals, including Hitachi, that it accused of stealing or trading in its plans.

Peter Kuhn, a spokesman for IBM, said Friday night that the company had filed the new suit because it had been unable to come to terms with National Semiconductor.

"There have been negotiations going on virtually the whole time since we filed the suit," Mr. Kuhn said. "There is still the possibility that a settlement will be reached before a trial is actually held, but at some point you have to decide whether you'll proceed with the litigation, which is essentially what we're doing."

Hitachi was named in the suit Friday, which was filed in U.S. District Court in San Francisco, but Mr. Kuhn said the suit contained no new charges against Hitachi. The Japanese company was cited only because the IBM material that Hitachi purportedly obtained had come from National Advanced Systems, he added.

He said Friday's suit had no effect on the settlement reached in October with Hitachi. Included in that settlement was a clause giving IBM the right to inspect Hitachi's products for five years. Hitachi agreed to pay legal costs and the companies set up a system for resolving trade disputes in the future.

In a court appearance 10 days ago, Thomas Barr, a lawyer for IBM, told U.S. District Judge Spencer Williams that National Semiconductor "got the benefit of a year's research and development"

U.K.'s Sale of 25% of C&W Shares Probably Will Draw Many Investors

By Bob Hagerty

LONDON — Britain's Conservative Party government, intent on selling off state-owned companies as quickly as possible, will have to strain to unload some of its debt-gorged behemoths.

This week, however, the government is making what is likely to be one of its easiest sales. On offer is nearly 25 percent of Cable & Wireless PLC, the telecommunications company that started life wiring together the British Empire.

Kenneth Baker, minister for information technology and no slouch at salesmanship, recently boasted that C&W's chairman, Eric Sharp, "has transformed the company and changed its image of a network of wireless telegraphy stations manned by chaps in long khaki shorts to the most dynamic company in world telecommunications."

London share analysts do not quite think that far in their praise of Mr. Sharp, a longtime violin and acting student who took over C&W three years ago and who says he relaxes by baking his own bread. But they do say that Mr. Sharp and his team have tightened accountability and cost control while giving C&W's far-flung managers authority to exercise entrepreneurial flair.

"Sharp's put a bit of zip into the business," says one analyst. As a result, says another, Michael

Whitaker of Simon & Coates, C&W is "fundamentally much more attractive than British Telecom," the giant telephone monopoly. The government plans to sell 51 percent of BT next autumn.

This week, the government is selling 100 million C&W shares for a minimum of £2.75 (\$4.02) apiece, reducing the state's holding to 23 percent from 45 percent. After announcement of the terms Friday, the shares closed at £2.95, up 2 pence on the day. Applications for the shares are due this Friday, and priority will go to the highest bidders.

The sale will raise at least £275 million, and probably considerably more. Two years ago, the government received just £224 million for half the company.

Such has been the rise in the City of London's esteem for C&W.

Two weeks ago, however, the market got a reminder of the long-term, capital-intensive nature of the business. The company reported that pretax profit for the first half ended Sept. 30 rose 16 percent from a year earlier to £80 million, on revenue of £213 million. That disappointed analysts gunning for faster growth after last year's unforeseen 76 percent profit surge.

C&W's main business is providing telephone services under franchises granted by 29 countries. (Continued on Page 21, Col. 6)

Manila Seeking Rescheduling of Much of Its Debt

Reuters

MANILA — President Ferdinand E. Marcos said the Philippines wants to reschedule loans from foreign governments due for repayment in eight to 10 years.

The presidential palace said in a statement Saturday that Prime Minister Cesar Virata and the central bank governor, Jaime Laya, will go to Paris for talks this week with an international consortium dealing with the Philippine government's debts.

Mr. Laya earlier said the government would approach the so-called Club of Paris to help the Philippines reschedule loans with easy terms from industrialized countries. The Club of Paris is a group of representatives from industrialized nations that handles government-to-government debt.

The plan is separate from current negotiations for a rescheduling of about \$3 billion owed to 350 foreign banks, which officials hope can be settled in January.

Government officials have not indicated the sum involved in restructuring loans from developed countries, but it will be substantial because a major part of the country's \$24-billion foreign debt is from governments.

Mr. Marcos said: "What we are talking about is possibly restructuring the loans that are most bothersome and are due for another eight to 10 years."

He said the government was also trying to raise new money, which he estimated would be \$500 million to \$2 billion, to pay for imported raw materials, spare parts and new equipment, in addition to oil, grains and fertilizers.

He said Mr. Laya and Mr. Virata would hold separate talks with for-

Ferdinand E. Marcos

eign financial leaders this week before going to Paris.

Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone of Japan had promised U.S. President Ronald Reagan that Japan would help the Philippines resolve its current economic problems, Mr. Marcos added.

The palace statement said central bank officials were now in Japan working out details of a financial program.

Mr. Marcos also said the country's energy minister, Gerónimo Velasco, was negotiating increased oil supplies in the Middle East. He said the response had been positive but did not give details. The supplies would be in addition to 1 million barrels of oil China has promised the Philippines.

He added Mr. Laya would probably join Mr. Velasco in the Middle East to find out whether the region could be tapped for investments and aid.

U.S. Recovery Seen Slowing Further

By Kenneth N. Gilpin

New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — In keeping with the pattern of postwar economic expansion, the pace of the current recovery has slowed after a vigorous, initial rebound from recession. Growing evidence suggests that the pace is likely to moderate further during the fourth quarter.

The eight-tenths of 1 percent rise in industrial production in October was the lowest since February. Housing starts have declined for the last two months. And auto sales for the middle 10 days of November were relatively flat, remaining at an annual selling rate of slightly less than seven million.

For the time being, economists

are welcoming a more modestly paced, but solid, recovery.

"The outlook is for the best of all possible worlds in the fourth quarter and through next year — low inflation and a sustainable recovery," said Edward Yardeni, chief economist at Prudential-Bache Securities. "I don't think that was possible a year ago."

Indeed, the trend has been a pleasant surprise to those who a year ago worried that huge federal budget deficits, high real and nominal interest rates and a record trade deficit would produce a sputtering, tepid recovery from the worst recession since World War II. But the recovery that has emerged is, by historical standards, a more familiar animal.

Robert T. Parry, an executive

vice president at Security Pacific Bank in Los Angeles, said: "We think growth in the fourth quarter will be on the order of between 5.5 percent and 6 percent."

"Since growth achieved during the second and third quarters of this year was clearly not sustainable, we think this forecast is highly desirable."

In its most recent poll of more than 40 economists, taken earlier this month, Blue Chip Economic Indicators, a newsletter published in Sedona, Arizona, said most analysts were expecting output to increase 5.5 percent this quarter.

As with most of its predecessors, the initial momentum to the current recovery has been provided by sharp increases in consumer spend-

(Continued on Page 20, Col. 4)

Poland Said to Resell Libyan Oil at Loss to Gain Hard Currency

By John Kifner

New York Times Service

WARSAW — The Polish government is taking a loss of up to \$8.4 million reselling Libyan oil on the open market in a bid to earn hard currency to prop up its economy, industry sources say.

The decision illustrates the plight of the Polish economy, heavily dependent on Western raw materials and spare parts and severely hit by a cutoff of credit from Western nations.

Poland is now increasing its overall debt to obtain dollars needed to buy Western materials.

Poland's foreign trade minister, Tadeusz Nestorowicz, said at a recent news conference that Libya, one of the few countries extending credits to Poland, had granted \$230 million in credits to allow Poland to purchase more than 7 million barrels of Libyan crude.

Asked if the oil was being used domestically or being sold, Mr. Nestorowicz replied: "We are selling it abroad in order to raise the

money we need." He declined to disclose the prices involved, adding: "No country in the world would give you this information."

Oil-industry sources noted that under guidelines set by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries, Libyan Zueitina crude carries an official price of \$30.40 a barrel. These sources said that, given OPEC pressure on its member nations, it was unlikely that Libya would sell below the official price. But Zueitina crude is selling at \$29.20 on the spot market in Rotterdam in the Netherlands, as oversupply has weakened demand. This Poland would suffer a loss of \$1.20 a barrel, or a total \$8.4 million if it resold all the Libyan oil at that price.

Such resales would still yield more than \$200 million in hard currency, sources say. But they add that Warsaw likely has to pay Libya interest on the loan. They say Libya might have granted Poland an extended period for repayment because Poland has supplied military equipment and training both

to Libyans and to the Palestinians they support.

An oil market specialist and professor of economics at the University of Colorado, Ragai el-Mallakh, said that although he did not believe Libya was selling oil to Poland at a discount, "I am 95 percent sure there would be some political content in these credit arrangements."

Reports have circulated among dissident circles in Warsaw for some weeks that Poland was buying oil on credit and selling it at a loss.

2 U.S. Banks Back Down Over French Guarantee

By Carl Gewirtz

International Herald Tribune

PARIS — The much talked about showdown between two U.S. banks, Morgan Guaranty and Citibank, and the French government over loan documentation wording appeared to have been resolved last week when the two banks brought to the market a \$100-million syndicated loan for Credit National.

The dispute has centered on the unwillingness of the French government, as guarantor of loans by state agencies, to agree to a cross-default clause of its own. Morgan and Citibank walked out of an earlier ECU-denominated loan rather than accept not getting such wording and since then French borrowers have not raised money in the syndicated-loan market.

Morgan recently agreed to provide part of a back-up line that Credit National was seeking for the sale of commercial paper in New York but the wording in that stand-by agreement, a private pact, was not made public.

The wording in the new sterling agreement makes it clear that the banks got was the promise, written into the loan agreement, that no future lenders to Credit National would receive better protection or, if they do, such protection would apply to this loan.

The issue is almost moot because a \$600-million Credit National loan arranged last year for eight years does carry the government's cross-default clause (whereby a default on any of its loans throws all

others into default). Both Morgan and Citibank participated in that loan. Thus, through Credit National's cross-default clause, the banks have a cross-default clause of the guarantor.

This exists only so long as the \$600-million loan is outstanding. Once repaid, or prepaid and prematurely canceled, this coverage will cease to exist.

Not all bankers are convinced that the new wording agreed by Morgan and Citibank will enable

SYNDICATED LOANS

French borrowers to tap the dollar market for substantial loans. That test will not be made until the new year because the French have now completed their 1983 borrowing plans.

What remains a mystery is why the banks made such a fuss about the absence of the guarantor's cross-default clause in the first place only to settle for such limp wording in the end.

One possible explanation is com-

petitive pressure — the need for quality loans in a year when lending volume is generally down very sharply and the need to maintain a certain position with the French because both banks have important operations in the country.

In any event, the terms are a very competitive 3-point over the interbank rate for the first four years and half a point over for the final four years.

This same demand for quality assets explains the equally low conditions that Belgium has won on its \$600-million, eight-year loan. It will pay an equally tight margin of 3 1/2 point over Libor. The average life of this loan will be 6 1/2 years with semiannual repayments beginning after a grace period of 3 1/2 years.

The relative paucity of loans from countries free of debt problems also explained the \$50-million increase in Algeria's loan to \$750 million. The final amount may be raised further, depending on how much money is raised in general syndication.

Even Portugal's \$350-million

loan, which everyone agreed was moving slowly, finished what was regarded as a very successful syndication, with 20 percent raised from the market outside the underwriting managers.

New to the market this week is a \$75-million loan for Cia. Sevillana de Electricidad, Seville's electric utility company. Half the loan will run for seven years, with interest set at 7 1/2 point over Libor or 3/4 point over the prime rate. The other half will run for four years, with interest set either at 7 1/2 point over Libor or half a point over the prime rate.

One of the more interesting operations to come to the market in a long time is the offer for sale of \$40,024,116.81 of promissory notes payable by the Foreign Trade Bank of the USSR. The notes are held by Italsider and Finisider, the Italian steel companies, and are to be offered in the market at 1 1/2 points over Libor.

The Russians pay a fixed 7.45 percent rate of annual interest and Italy's state-owned credit bank pays the rest.

U.S. Tool Orders Up 70% in Oct. From Year Ago

New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The National Machine Tool Builders' Association announced Sunday that machine-tool orders were up 70 percent in October from year-earlier levels.

But it said in a report that the level of orders last month was still depressed. James A. Gray, the association's president, said, "In early 1980, monthly machine-tool orders averaged over \$500 million per month, versus \$203 million in October 1982."

Orders in October were 30 percent above September levels. Shipments were 9 percent more than in the previous month but were 29 percent below levels in October 1982.

Eli S. Lustgarten, an analyst with Paine Webber Mitchell Hinchins, said: "It's clear the worst is over for the machine-tool industry."

Economy Seen the Major Rate Arbiter

By Michael Quint

New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The pace of the U.S. economic expansion is slowing, and money-supply growth has dropped to within or below the targets set by the Federal Reserve. Both these conditions were key elements in forecasts of lower interest rates, which are still circulating even though rates are higher than some expected.

For example, the 11.62 percent yield on 12 percent Treasury bonds due in 2013 is down slightly from 12.08 percent in early August, but is well above the 10 1/2 percent yield for 30-year Treasury issues in early May.

"With money supply in bounds, and the economy slowing as projected, it would not be appropriate to abandon our forecast of a slight decline in rates, with federal funds at 8 1/2 percent or 9 percent in the first quarter of next year," said Thomas Thomson, chief economist at Crocker National Bank.

Analysts agree that the final arbiter of interest rates will probably be the economy's showing. David Jones, an economist at Aubrey G. Langston & Co., who sees the tilt to interest rates "yiable to firmer," noted that inflation-adjusted economic growth at a 6 percent annual rate in the current quarter is down from 7.7 percent and 9.7 percent in the two previous quarters, but "is still probably higher than is consistent with sustained long-term growth with low inflation."

U.S. Consumer Rates

For Week Ended Nov. 25

Passbook Savings	5.30 %
Tax Exempt Bonds	7.24 %
Bank Money Market Accounts	8.45 %
Bank Rate Monitor Index	8.49 %
Home Mortgages	12.19 %
FHLB average	

Hopes that the central bank would soon encourage lower short-term interest rates may have been dampened late Friday after the Fed had announced that bank reserves became scarcer in the week ended Nov. 23, rather than more plentiful as many analysts had expected.

The announcement came after an early 2 p.m. closing by major brokers and dealers in the Treasury market, so there was no trading response to the new data.

Fed data showed that the banking system borrowed an average of \$688 million from the Federal Reserve in the week ended Nov. 23, excluding seasonal and other special loans. Combined with \$408 million of excess reserves held by some institutions, the banking system had an average net borrowed reserve position of \$280 million, up \$25 million from the previous week.

The Fed's report on the money supply, however, was held over because of the holiday and was to be released Monday.

CURRENCY RATES

Interbank exchange rates for Nov. 25, excluding bank service charges

	\$	DM	F.P.	Y.L.	Gr.	S.F.	S.P.	D.C.
Amsterdam	2.50	112.05	26.25	8.80	51.80	19.02	31.03	
Brussels	2.50	80.45	20.29	6.75	13.45	10.10	26.24	
Frankfurt	2.71	39.15	32.88	1.63	1.63	24.41	27.48	
London (b)	1.48	3.47	12.09	2.95	59.97	29.87	72.77	107.66
Paris	1.48	2.94	12.09	2.95	59.97	29.87	72.77	107.66
Porto	1.48	2.94	12.09	2.95	59.97	29.87	72.77	107.66
Stockholm	1.48	2.94	12.09	2.95	59.97	29.87	72.77	107.66
Switzerland	1.48	2.94	12.09	2.95	59.97	29.87	72.77	107.66
Yokohama	1.48	2.94	12.09	2.95	59.97	29.87	72.77	107.66
1 ECU	0.23	0.57	2.53	6.81	1.59	45.10	1.89	1.49
1 SDR	1.54	3.71	16.45	4.51	1.59	45.10	1.89	1.49

Dollar Values

	Per	U.S.	Per	U.S.	Per	U.S.	Per	U.S.
Swiss	1.48	0.67	Japanese	1.48	0.67	Swedish	1.48	0.67
Australian	1.48	0.67	British	1.48	0.67	Belgian	1.48	0.67
Canadian	1.48	0.67	French	1.48	0.67	German	1.48	0.67
Danish	1.48	0.67	Italian	1.48	0.67	Spanish	1.48	0.67
Portuguese	1.48	0.67	South African	1.48	0.67	Swedish	1.48	0.67
Swedish	1.48	0.67	Swiss	1.48	0.67	Swiss	1.48	0.67
Swiss	1.48	0.67	Swiss	1.48	0.67	Swiss	1.48	0.67
Swiss	1.48	0.67	Swiss	1.48	0.67	Swiss	1.48	0.67
Swiss	1.48	0.67	Swiss	1.48	0.67	Swiss	1.48	0.67

Source: Reuters

Commercial bank (b) Amounts needed to buy one pound (1) Units of 100 (all units of 100)

Not all applied; N.A. not available.

Gold Options (prices in \$/oz.)

Price	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.
30	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
40	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
50	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00
60	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00	300.00

Source: Reuters

Not all applied; N.A. not available.

Not all applied; N.A. not available.

Not all applied; N.A. not available.

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Not all applied; N.A. not available.

Not all applied; N.A. not available.

MICROLAND

We do it in bits and bytes...

Microland — We believe in service

...the GROUP

Sales in					Net	Sales in				
1995	High	Low	Last	Change		1995	High	Low	Last	Change

INVESTORS

Dear Fellow Gulf S

FIRST:

SECOND:

THIRD:

Sales In					Sales In					
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FOURTH:

EIGH

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companies should show
value in their special meeting

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Gulf Management
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For the Week Ending November 25, 1983								
Option & price	Calls	Puts	Option & price	Calls	Puts	Option & price	Calls	Puts

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YOU

Even if you have every legal right dated **BLUE** printed in the envelope your vote may not call our proxy s

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An Important Message from the GULF INVESTORS GROUP

WE BELIEVE GULF MANAGEMENT'S ROYALTY TRUST ANALYSIS IS WRONG

Dear Fellow Gulf Shareholder:

Gulf is circulating proxy materials dated November 16, 1983 addressed to institutional holders of Gulf stock. These materials purport to analyze the valuation of Gulf common stock after creation of a royalty trust with a 75% net profits interest in Gulf's U.S. oil and gas reserves. We are amazed at the low value placed on Gulf by its own management in these materials.

In our opinion, Gulf's materials reflect a gross undervaluation of Gulf. Gulf's materials assign an absurdly low value of only \$5.10 per share for Gulf Oil common stock after creation of the trust. This value is wrong for the following reasons:

FIRST: Gulf Oil Corporation, after a 75% royalty trust, would have a book value estimated at \$40 to \$45 per share. **Gulf's \$5.10 per share market valuation would mean that the company's stock trades at only 11% to 13% of book value. In today's market, major oil company stocks generally trade at 70% to 100% of book value.**

SECOND: Gulf Oil Corporation, after a 75% royalty trust, would have cash flow in excess of \$11.00 per currently outstanding share. **Major oil company stocks trade at 2.5 to 3.5 times cash flow, but Gulf management is suggesting that its own stock would trade at a meager 0.5 times cash flow.**

THIRD: After a 75% royalty trust, Gulf's remaining operations would have a J.S. Herold valuation estimated at \$62 per share (after adjusting Herold's most recent value of \$114 per share to eliminate 75% of the value assigned to U.S. oil and gas reserves). **Gulf's \$5.10 per share valuation represents only about 8% of this adjusted Herold's valuation. In reality, major oil company stocks trade at 35% to 50% of J.S. Herold valuation.**

FOURTH: Gulf Oil Corporation, after a 75% royalty trust, would have over \$30 billion of revenues, \$16 billion of total assets and \$1.9 billion of annual cash flow. **Yet Gulf management would have you believe that the company would have a total market value of only \$840 million.**

FIFTH: Gulf Oil Corporation, after a 75% royalty trust, would continue to own 137 million shares of Gulf Canada Ltd. Based on the current price for Gulf Canada on the American Stock Exchange of about \$14 per share, **each share of Gulf Oil would have an underlying \$11.62 in market value of Gulf Canada stock. This value alone amounts to more than two times the \$5.10 valuation for the whole company contained in the Gulf materials.**

SIXTH: Gulf Oil Corporation, after a 75% royalty trust, would in our opinion have sufficient cash flow to continue to pay annual cash dividends in the range of \$2.00 to \$3.00 per share. Therefore, on the basis of Gulf management's \$5.10 per share valuation, **the annual dividend yield on the stock would be an incredible 40% to 60%.**

SEVENTH: Gulf uses a multiple of **only 5.3 times cash flow** in valuing the royalty trust units. **This multiple is unsupportably low in comparison to the multiples of eight to ten times cash flow which apply in the real world to other royalty trusts.** We believe this low multiple is particularly inappropriate in light of Gulf's annual development expenditures of \$700 million, which should result in increased reserves and an extended productive life for the properties. **We believe that a multiple of 8 to 10 times annual cash flow of \$6.75 per unit is more appropriate.**

EIGHTH: During the past five years, Gulf has spent \$9.1 billion on operations other than U.S. oil and gas. **This equals \$55 per current share. Does Gulf management really believe that those operations plus the retained 25% of U.S. oil and gas reserves would have a value of only \$5.10 per share?**

We believe the foregoing demonstrates that Gulf has **grossly understated** the value to shareholders of the royalty trust and the remaining company and shows a basic misunderstanding by Gulf and its advisors of the impact of a royalty trust on Gulf. We strongly believe there is substantial value in Gulf, and that the value can and should be realized for all Gulf shareholders. **We urge you not to base your vote at the December 2 special meeting on Gulf management's royalty trust analysis which we believe to be erroneous.**

Don't Be Confused About Taxes

Gulf Management has repeatedly claimed that a royalty trust is not good for individual shareholders.

Remember: The Gulf Investors Group consists of both corporations and individuals. These investors all believe the enhancement in the value of Gulf stock which could be achieved by a trust would substantially exceed the related tax liability for both individuals and corporations.

Remember: Other shareholders, both individuals and corporations, have overwhelmingly supported royalty trusts when given the opportunity. Holders of over 96% of Mesa's, Southland's and Sabine's shares voting on the creation of trusts supported their companies' royalty trust distributions.

Remember: Our goal is the same as yours. We are working to increase value for all shareholders.

Don't Give Up Your Rights

Gulf management's reincorporation proposal is a defensive move to eliminate important shareholder rights.

- All shareholders **lose** their right to cumulative voting in the election of directors.
- Gulf shareholders **lose** the right of a 10% holder to require Gulf to submit proposed charter amendments to a shareholder vote.
- Gulf shareholders **lose** the right of a 20% holder to call a special shareholders meeting.
- **REMEMBER: You don't have to decide whether you are for or against a royalty trust at this time. The most important thing for you to decide is whether you want to preserve your right to have shareholder ideas such as a royalty trust come before you at some future time.**

YOU CAN CHANGE YOUR VOTE

Even if you have already voted for the reincorporation proposal, you have every legal right to change your mind and vote **AGAINST** on a later dated **BLUE** proxy card. Since time is short, please mail your proxy today in the envelope that has been provided to you. If you are concerned that your vote may not be received in time for the December 2 meeting, please call our proxy solicitor for immediate assistance:

THE
Carter
ORGANIZATION, INC.

Toll-Free 800-221-3343
or
212-619-1100 (collect)

VOTE AGAINST MANAGEMENT'S REINCORPORATION PROPOSAL.

Thank you once again.

On behalf of the Gulf Investors Group

T. Boone Pickens, Jr.

T. Boone Pickens, Jr.

Athens Seen Trying to Discredit Private Industry

By Paul Lewis

New York Times Service

ATHENS — When Andreas Papandreu's Pan Hellenic Socialist Movement came to power in Greece two years ago, George A. Tsatsos, one of the country's leading industrialists, made an effort to establish cordial relations with the new administration.

The effort, he now acknowledges with a wince, did not work. Indeed, he has become the prime target in what Western diplomats see as a government campaign to discredit private industry by blaming it for both the country's deepening economic malaise and the Socialist's failure to make good on many of their promises.

Mr. Tsatsos used to be managing director of Heracles General Cement, Europe's biggest cement producer and one of Greece's few successful big companies. Its sales totaled \$350 million last year — equivalent to almost 1 percent of the Greek economy's total output. He and his family are also the company's largest private shareholders, with about 30 percent of the capital.

At first, Mr. Tsatsos said, he tried to make peace with the Socialists by never criticizing them and by calling on Prime Minister Papandreu and his Cabinet mem-

bers to discuss economic problems. In September, however, the government opened a tirade in the press against business corruption in general. This was followed soon afterward by government accusations against Mr. Tsatsos and 12 other top Heracles executives of \$100 million worth of fraud and currency smuggling. Legal proceedings were opened against them and they were prohibited from leaving the country.

The Heracles executives, denying any impropriety, resigned. They complained that the government had pronounced them guilty without holding a trial. A new board, appointed by the government, took control of the company. On the Athens Stock Market, Heracles shares slumped to \$4 from \$14.

The attack on Heracles is one of several government actions that have created fear and uncertainty in the Greek business community.

In a newspaper interview, for instance, Prime Minister Papandreu said night-wing Greeks had set up a secret \$120-million fund in Chicago with the aim of undermining the Greek economy. Opposition leaders demanded proof, but nothing more has been heard of this charge. With 50 percent of Greek production already in state hands, ministers talk of "socializing" the

private sector and say they are seeking industrialists guilty of "economic sabotage."

The minister of national economy, Gerasimos Arsenis, has said he knows of 45 bank directors (not identified) who have made "abusive loans." And he has promised that the government, already nationalizing the pharmaceutical industry, will take control of Petralofarm, a troubled textile company.

The Socialist press regularly publishes the names of companies that supposedly are about to suffer the same fate as Heracles. After France's Socialist government asserted that it had obtained a list of foreigners with secret accounts in a major Swiss bank, Prime Minister Papandreu said he had asked President François Mitterrand for a copy of the list.

The Greek business community has begun to strike back. In a speech in October, Theodore Papalexopoulos, president of the Greek Industries Federation, denounced the attack on Heracles, saying that it had "caused serious damage" to the company and to society as a whole.

He said government threats were creating an impression "that nationalization, in one form or another, of all private enterprises is imminent and that we are moving

toward an economy that will have central control of all activities." Such a climate, he went on, "destroys not only entrepreneurial creativity but also the ability to operate on a day-to-day basis, with grave consequences for the whole economy."

Mr. Tsatsos describes the attack on his company as "political." The government always knew what Heracles was up to, he declared, since it controls the company through a 40 percent stake held by the state-owned National Bank, which has four directors on the company's board.

Shell companies, he said, were set up abroad not for currency smuggling but to hide the identity of Arab business partners who helped Heracles diversify into cement-carrying after the first oil-price shock. The company became a major supplier in the Persian Gulf area, winning 9 percent of the world cement trade.

Greece's Socialists, Western diplomats feel, have ample reason for distrusting their supporters' attention from everyday realities.

The Greek economy continues to crumble. Production has been declining since 1981, inflation is at 30 percent annual rate, the budget deficit remains enormous and unemployment is 8 percent and rising.

U.S. Recovery Is Slowing

(Continued from Page 17)

ing, a marked rise in housing activity and growing replenishment of companies' stocks.

In large part because of strength in those three areas, the inflation-adjusted gross national product expanded at a 9.7 percent rate in the second quarter this year, and 7.7 percent in the third quarter. That was achieved with only a modest increase in prices, and economists expect that low inflation will continue.

With an increase of four-tenths of 1 percent in the Consumer Price Index in October, for example, inflation so far this year is running at an annual rate of 3.9 percent. Rapid inventory buildup is almost sure to continue, but economists said that housing activity and consumer spending are unlikely to rise from current levels.

Alan Greenspan, president of Townsend-Greenspan, an economic consulting firm, said: "It is true that with realized capital gains on homes, stocks and bonds slowing down and a modest rise in the personal savings rate, consumer markets will not be the major leaders they have been in the first part of the recovery."

Without the warrants, the dollar bonds were trading at a discount to yield 12.7 percent and the DM bonds at a yield of 8 percent. But as a package, reflecting the value of the warrants, the dollar issue was trading at a premium of 101½-103½ and the DM bonds, at 102½-103½.

The DG Bank warrants, which were cut from the initial offering of 100,000, were offered at \$17 each but ended the week at \$10 bid, \$14 offered. The short six-month life was considered particularly unattractive.

Explaining that short life is the fact that Manufacturers Hanover Trust has a client willing to swap the cost of the 11½ percent bonds

Issuer	Amount (millions)	Maturity	Coupon %	Price	Yield At Offer	Terms
Allied Irish Bank	\$100	1995	10	100		
Bank of New York O'seas	\$ 75	1994	10	100		
Bank of Tokyo	\$100	1990	11½	100		
Belgium	\$400	2003	7	100		
British Columbia	\$125	1993	12	open		
Dg Bank Finance	0.75	6 mos	—	17		
ElB	\$250	1991	8	99½		
European-Amer. Banking	\$ 75	1994	11½	100		
McDonald's Finance	(\$ 75)	1994	11½	100		
McDonald's Finance	0.75	1988	—	17½		
Mitsubishi Heavy Ind.	\$100	1999	open	100		
Prudential O'seas Fund	\$150	1993	10½	100		
Prudential O'seas Fund	0.10	1988	—	7.52½		
Security Pac. Np'l Bk	\$100	1988	11½	100		
Vebo Int'l Finance	\$ 70	1993	8	100		
Fecsa	DM 80	1990	9	99	9.20	Noncallable.
IADB	DM150	1993	8½	99	8.40	Noncallable.
Int'l Standard Elec.	DM100	1990	7½	100	7½	Noncallable.
Vebo Int'l Finance	DM300	1993	4	100	4	Each 1,000 Deutsche mark bond carries two warrants to buy 8 Vebo shares of 10 DM.
Crédit National	\$180	1995	7½	100		
European Community	ECU50	1993	11	open		Sinking fund to start in 1985 to produce a 6½-yr average life. Price to be set Dec. 31.

Rate Concerns Drive Away Eurobond Investors

(Continued from Page 17)

has raised \$150 million at a very favorable rate of interest of 10½ percent.

An outright flop was the planned issue of \$20-million convertible for Computer Products of the United States. The issue was cancelled. Better received was the offering from VEBA, the West German energy holding company. It offered \$70 million of 10-year bonds bearing a coupon of 8 percent and 300 million DM (\$111 million) of 10-year bonds bearing a coupon of 4 percent.

Each \$1,000 bond carries two warrants to buy, in all, 21 shares at a price of 166 DM each. Each 1,000-DM bond carries two warrants to buy, in all, eight shares at the same price.

Without the warrants, the dollar bonds were trading at a discount to yield 12.7 percent and the DM bonds at a yield of 8 percent. But as a package, reflecting the value of the warrants, the dollar issue was trading at a premium of 101½-103½ and the DM bonds, at 102½-103½.

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into floating-rate money for DG Bank. But the client does not want to carry this exposure for more than six months.

The major news about the swap market last week came from Japan, where the Finance Ministry, in a rare departure from its normally secretive ways, spelled out new guidelines for yen swaps against the dollar and the Swiss franc through foreign bond issues by private Japanese borrowers. Up to now, currency swaps have only been allowed for bonds guaranteed by the government.

The action follows a government decision this month to allow private Japanese firms to float European bonds. The changes all take effect on the same date, next April 1.

The instruments to be swapped need not be public offerings, as was the case, and it will no longer be necessary to divulge who the counterpart is. But the swap must be arranged through an intermediary. Required to be reported to the Finance Ministry, however, is the forward exchange rate used in the transaction and the net cost to the Japanese issuer.

For the European market, the ministry's only restriction is that the lead manager must be a Tokyo-incorporated (that is, Japanese) securities house. However, for issues arranged in the U.S. domestic market, a Japanese firm must be, at least a joint lead manager or the

first, out of alphabetical order, co-manager.

While the bond issues may not cost companies any less than in the domestic market, one big difference is that all domestic corporate bond issues are guaranteed whereas this, it is expected, will not be needed abroad — at least not for the top-rated companies. But most important, the moves are expected to alter rigid domestic market practices and add more competition to the setting of terms and conditions.

The swaps will also allow companies to shop for interest charges that are below those offered at home.

In the DM sector, bankers complained that the scheduled flow of issues was too big for the current level of investor demand. The 80-

million-DM issue for Fecsa, the Spanish electricity utility, had an offering price cut from the indicated par to 99.

The latest issue to be launched was 250 million DM for the European Investment Bank. The eight-year bonds, bearing a coupon of 9 percent, were priced at 99½ to yield 8.04 percent.

In the sterling market, a £100-million (\$146-million) floating-rate note for Crédit National of France, a companion loan to a syndicated bank credit, was not well received. Interest is to be fixed at ¼-point over the three-month sterling interbank rate, but, the notes were quoted at a discount of 1.15 points and traders suspected it was holding there only because the lead manager was supporting it.

International Herald Tribune

Dorchester Says Firm Wants to Buy It

New York Times Service

NEW YORK — Dorchester Gas Corp. of Dallas said that a private company is attempting to arrange financing for a possible buyout of Dorchester. It did not identify the company.

Based on Dorchester's closing price of \$17.25 Friday on the American Stock Exchange, the transaction would be valued at nearly \$300 million.

George S. Rooker, Dorchester's chairman, made the announcement Friday in explaining the heavy volume in the company's stock Wednesday. Dorchester finished that day up \$3.50, at \$16.25, in trading of 182,800 shares.

Mr. Rooker said that terms of a buyout had not been determined and that Dorchester had not received an offer of an acquisition or merger.

l'essentiel.
le commentaire.



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Oil and Money in the Eighties

AN INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE/OIL DAILY CONFERENCE
PARK LANE HOTEL, LONDON, DECEMBER 8 AND 9, 1983

"The global impact of shifting markets" will be the theme of the fourth annual International Herald Tribune/Oil Daily conference on "Oil and Money in the Eighties."

The conference will focus this year on what caused the radical shift in the oil market in recent years and what the implications of the turnaround are for the future.

DECEMBER 8

KEYNOTE ADDRESS
Donald Model, United States Secretary of Energy
U.S. ENERGY: THE NEXT TEN YEARS
John Lichtblau, Executive Director, Petroleum Industry Research Foundation, New York
STRUCTURAL VERSUS CYCLICAL CHANGE IN THE OIL MARKET
Moderator: Herman Franssen, Chief Economist, International Energy Agency, Paris
Robert Mabro, Director, Oxford Institute for Energy Studies
Arie de Geus, Coordinator of Planning, Shell International Petroleum Company Limited, London
William Finger, Coordinator of Energy Analysis, Exxon Company, Houston
ARAB BANKING'S ROLE IN OPEC COUNTRIES' INVESTMENT STRATEGIES
Abdulla A. Saudi, President and Chief Executive, Arab Banking Corporation, Bahrain
CORPORATE THINKING ON THE ENERGY INVESTMENT OUTLOOK
Robert Anderson, Chairman, Atlantic Richfield Corporation, Los Angeles
François Didier, Senior Vice President, Strategic Planning, Elf Aquitaine, Paris
NORTH SEA INVESTMENT OUTLOOK
G. Malcolm Ford, Joint Managing Director, Britoil Plc, Glasgow

DECEMBER 9

THE ROLE OF THE WORLD BANK IN WORLD ENERGY DEVELOPMENT IN THE EIGHTIES
Yves Rovani, Vice-President, Energy, The World Bank, Washington, D.C.
THE OIL FUTURES MARKET
Robin Woodhead, Chairman, International Petroleum Exchange, London, and Managing Director, Premier Man Group
Karlsten Mahlmann, Head of the Oil Committee, Chicago Board of Trade
THE SINO-SOVIET OIL OUTLOOK
Professor Arthur Meyerhoff, Independent Oil Producer and Geologist
LIVING WITH OPEC
James Adams, Former U.S. Ambassador to Saudi Arabia
OPEC IN THE EIGHTIES
Alfredo Parra, Director, Petroleos de Venezuela (U.K.) S.A., London
THE IMPACT OF DOWNSTREAM INVESTMENT AND PRODUCT SALES IN EUROPE BY THE PRODUCING COUNTRIES
Moderator: Nicolas G. Voule, Oil Consultant, London and The Hague
Erwin Spuller, Managing Director, Fretail, Paris
John Malby, Chairman, The Burmah Oil Co. Plc, London
Charles de Bièvre, Director, Banque Arabe Internationale d'Investissements, Paris

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

The participation fee is \$475 or the equivalent in an alternative currency for each participant. Fees are payable in advance, and will be returned in full for any cancellation that is postmarked on or before November 19.

Please return the conference registration form to: The International Herald Tribune, Conference Office, 181 Ave. Charles-de-Gaulle, 92521 Neuilly Cedex, France. Or telephone: (33-1) 747.12.65. Telex: 612832.

CONFERENCE LOCATION

Park Lane Hotel, Piccadilly, London W1Y 8BX, England. Tel. (44-1) 499 6321. Telex: 21533. Contact: Ms. Henderson.

A block of rooms has been reserved for conference participants. For further information, please contact the hotel directly.

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

Please enroll the following participant for the Energy conference, December 8 and 9, 1983.

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November 21, 1983

Hellos and Goodbytes

How to conclude? *Thurny*, writes the old newsband, *Love*, writes Herb. *Off*, snorts a computer technician. Nothing, writes a man from IBM. My own preference: **REPLY / IGNORE / DESTROY.**
New York Times Service

Key West: The 'Conchs' Are Uneasy

Many Conchs, in addition to being displeased with the changing atmosphere of their town, are finding it more difficult to cope with the rising cost of staying here. This



now. "I have to go out to the reef, five miles off, seven miles off, 15 miles off," he says. "And they are still hard to find."

Scientists and conservationists are studying ways to repopulate the conch here in the

This town that lives off tourists, whatever their persuasion, displays an ambivalent attitude toward them. "I suppose it's the same in any tourist town," says Mrs. Terrell, the real estate agent. "We love to see them, but we love to see them leave."

SAN FRANCISCO POSTCARD

An Academy of Dead Fish

He is co-author of the just-published "A Field Guide to Pacific Coast Fishes of North America."
Bill Follett, 82, curator emeritus of the ichthyology department and an academy ichthyologist for 52

and urged equal time for the languages of Britain's ethnic minorities. It also opposed the paper suggestion that English-speaking rather than native-speaking foreign assistants were better teachers of foreign languages.

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